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TWELVE GENERATIONS

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A WURDEMAN GENEALOGY

TWELVE GENERATIONS

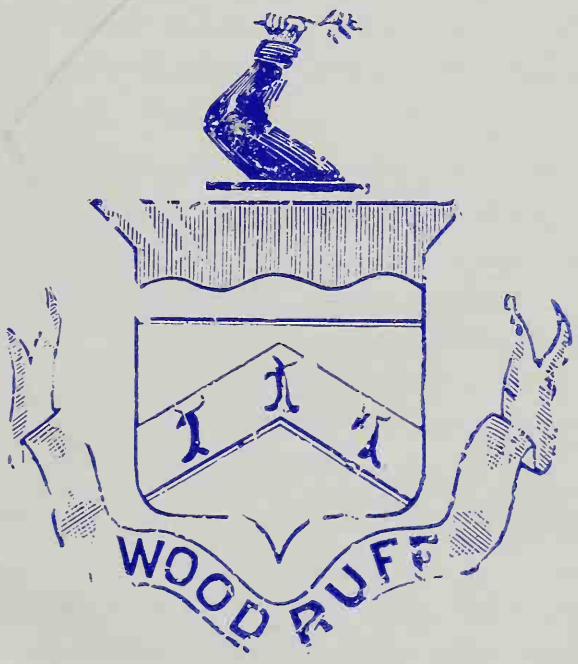
from

The Colony of Connecticut in New England

and

The Province of Upper Canada

1636-1959



A WOODRUFF GENEALOGY

by

NORRIS COUNSELL WOODRUFF

1959

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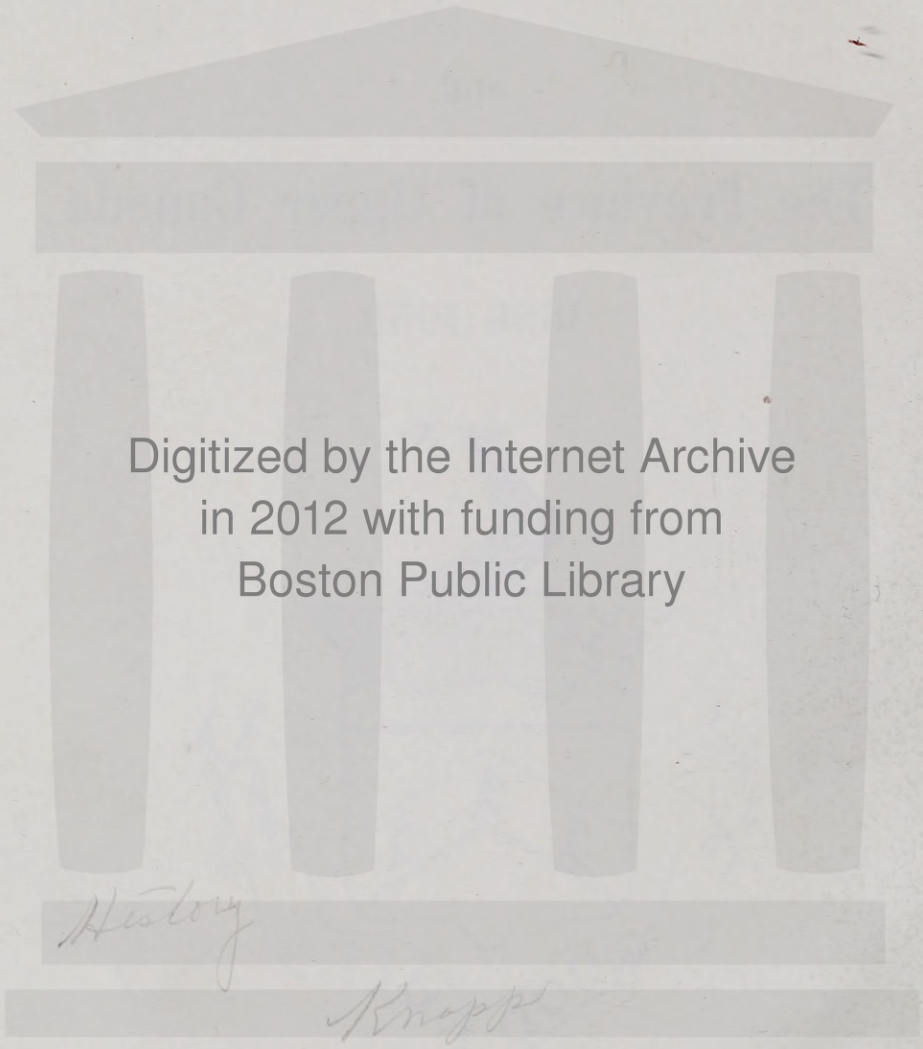

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CHAPTER I

THE FIVE NEW ENGLAND GENERATIONS

This is an account for my son, Laurence David Woodruff and my daughter, Madelon Minerva Laidler and any members of the family who may be interested.

It is my hope that my children, or their children, may find it interesting if and when they attain that age at which at least some of us evince a curiosity about our ancestors or the degree to which we are native to this land.

Most of us are prone to picture ourselves as the architects of our destiny or as the victims of our environment, according to our nature. But to me there has always been an arresting fascination in the thought that who, and what we are today, is surely and simply the result of the judgments and decisions made long ago by the men and women of whose lives we have this fragmentary glimpse. A veritable amateur in the field of genealogy, I have been amazed to discover the wealth of recorded detail concerning bygone times and bygone people, to be garnered by a little patient effort.

Unprecedented in our times, this decade is witnessing another infusion of peoples from the Old World that is rapidly changing the complexion and character of our country. So the time seems opportune for an attempt to preserve the story of one of the many families intimately connected with her early history. From these pages there will emerge to greet you no great or noble figures—just people, your people and my people and I, for my part, am humbly grateful to know this much about them.

While many family and official records of historical interest have been lost, it is fortunate that so much authentic data has survived the years. Though this account suffers from omissions, at no time has it been necessary to depart from known facts into the realm of surmise or speculation. The only inferences drawn are the obvious ones manifest from the evidence available.

Origin of the name WOODRUFF

From : Wood - reeve, the governor or keeper of a wood; a forester or bailiff.
—"English Surnames" by Charles W. Bardsley.
—"Surnames of the United Kingdom" by Henry Harrison.

Coat of Arms and Crest

Both appear or are mentioned in family records but whether authentic to our branch of the family is not known definitely since the link to the Woodruffs of England has not been established. One attempt to do so proved an expensive disappointment but not before some erroneous information had been included in Vol. **III** of the "Colonial Families of the United States" by George N. MacKenzie. Curiously enough, the person who furnished the data was apparently an enterprising imposter who claimed England as his home and Norris Woodruff as his name. This hoax is referred to in a note appearing as a preface to the "Woodruff Genealogy" published in 1925 by Frederick O. Woodruff of Lexington, Mass.

The Woodruff Arms and Crest with the motto "Sit Dux Sapienta" (Let wisdom be our guide) are depicted and described in the various books of Heraldry. The crest is a mailed arm holding aloft a sprig of what is officially designated as honeysuckle. Our family has always maintained that it is Sweet Woodruff, an aromatic herb (Asperula Odorata) still to be found in some old fashioned gardens and that the motto is "Sweetest when crushed".

In New England in America there was, of course, no regular Post in the 17th Century. Letters were written on paper made by laborious hand methods from linen rags. The pen was cut with a small blade (hence our word "penknife") from the quill of a goose or wild turkey. It was dipped in ink, homemade from vinegar and ox gall or from tea and iron filings. Letters were not then, or for years afterward enclosed in envelopes. Instead the sheets were folded so that none of the writing could be seen and were sealed with a large blob of hot wax into which the writer impressed his seal with his signet ring or with a die mounted on a wooden handle. The family rings are no more but we still have an old die of the Arms and Crest. It is fashioned of lead or pewter, mounted on a small block of walnut. The scroll bears the name "Woodruff" instead of the motto, indicating that it was probably used as a book plate. We know this die to be over a century old since it belonged to my great grandfather William and we think it was brought to this country from New England by his father, Ezekiel. It is still in sufficiently good condition to make the imprint on the frontis page of this book.

MATTHEW I

The Woodruff families of America appear to have derived from two main sources: John Woodruff who settled in Southampton, Long Island, New York in 1640 and whose descendants are the subject of a history by Francis Eben Woodruff – "The Woodruffs of New Jersey"* and our

*—See Appendix Item No. 22

progenitor, Matthew Woodruff who appears first at Farmington, Connecticut, in 1640. It is known that he went there from Hartford so he probably landed in 1636 as some records indicate.

Certainly he had no ticket for the Mayflower's voyage in 1620 for he was no Scrooby Sectarian whose descendants are venerated in the New England of today as the Pilgrim Fathers. He escapes the label "Puritan" as well for Matthew was a Protestant of the officially sanctioned middle of the road path to righteousness. It must be borne in mind that the word "religion" has undergone a radical modification in the course of three centuries. In his time it was practically synonymous with politics, a very vital human statistic, more important than race, sex or color.

For further background you will recall that at the beginning of the 17th century, England was suffering from what the authorities professed to believe was over-population. And so a considerable segment of the people came to be looked upon as undesirables except as emigrants for the Colonies. This mass of unfortunate humanity, was the ammunition which England considered expendable in her efforts to subdue and conquer the rugged lands across the seas . As far as America is concerned, but few survived the rigors of their involuntary adventure. The next great effort at colonization was the work of the London Company, a private enterprise whose profit motive no doubt contributed much to its efficiency and success. The London Company had just the right sales pitch for the times and its offers proved too alluring to resist. Many thousands of artisans, blacksmiths, whitesmiths, carpenters, brick-masons, ploughmen and others subscribed as indentured servants with their gaze firmly fixed upon the distant goal of land and freedom as the promised reward for their term of bondage.

These were the people who made the first great break in the dykes of the wilderness. Without doubt they were made of better stuff than their predecessors, the rogues, beggars, vagrants and convicts who had been drafted for the same ordeal but whose mortality rate was so appalling they could leave but little trace upon the beachheads of the continent.

Both groups were aided by a birth rate that today would be truly astonishing but the subscribers to the London Company had the benefit of a little better planning and so they did not fare quite so badly.

This was a period of tremendous religious upheaval in England which had its culmination in the Revolution led by that vicious fanatic, Oliver Cromwell. Religious sectarianism provided the motive power for the next invasion in force — the Pilgrims, the Quakers, the Puritans and the Catholics. It is often asserted and frequently accepted that these groups

were seeking religious freedom and so they were, each for itself alone! To a large degree they were bigoted fanatics to whom a doctrine of religious liberty or the separation of Church from State was abhorrent.

Following these migrations or sandwiched in between there came to our shores a few "gentlemen of quality" from whose infinitesimal number so many families prefer to believe they owe their descent. There came also some merchants accompanied by their worldly goods and not a few adventurers who possessed at least sufficient initiative to gamble that life in the New World might prove a more palatable alternative to their lot in the Old.

The 17th century was a highly significant one for the world in general and England in particular. Church and State were one and all-powerful. Religion was of grave importance to every individual. It was said of Cromwell's army that every private could preach for two hours at a stretch and with but small provocation would do so! Certain it is that he and his followers threw the switch that shunted the monarchial train from the main line to the siding where it has been puffing inoffensively ever since.

Under Elizabeth the landless were officially classified as "sturdy beggars," ideal Colonial fodder whose export meant fewer mouths to feed. But as the last remnants of feudalism were collapsing, a new and radical concept of economics was rising from the ashes. As the doctrine of Mercantilism met growing acceptance, it magically transformed these same unfortunates from Expendables into Indispensables. Mouths to feed became Hands to work and their loss to England a thing to be deplored. The authoritative brow now frowned upon the recruiting of able bodies for the Colonies and a judicial order was revised. Now only "Fellons" and "Rebells" were to be exported. Previously the quaint language of the order had included all rogues, vagabonds, minstrels, jugglers, pedlars, persons fayning themselves to have knowledge in physiognomye, palmestry or other crafty scyence, common players of Enterludes (other than players of Enterludes belonging to any Baron of this Realme), persons wandering about pretending losses by Fyre (insurance companies maintain that some of these are still with us), persons pretending to be Egipcyans or wandering about in the habite, form or attyre of counterfayte Egipcians, petty chapmen et al.

This remarkable reversal of attitude was further nurtured by the Great Plague of London. As the infection spread throughout the Kingdom, it spawned a new distemper to afflict the "House of Have"—the not so modern phenomenon that today we call a labor shortage. This had a selective effect upon English emigration after the first third of the 17th

century. Excluding convicts, the bulk of those who now went overseas were no longer thrown out. They had either to be coaxed or impelled by personal reasons of which there could be no scarcity for it was a time of savage persecution of all minority groups, religious, political or social. The prosperous had no incentive, the unimaginative no impulse. So the newcomers came to be drawn more and more from the rank and file of the active and ambitious. The colonies saw arrivals in increasing volume of people equipped with household goods, implements, livestock and occasionally a pouch well filled with gold coins. Some had made a deal with one of the promoters for a particular area who viewed the colonist as a prospect for the sale of a piece of real estate in which he had an interest or represented someone who did. Others, under no such sponsorship, made their own arrangements with an individual shipmaster, singly or in groups. These latter are not catalogued in the official archives so if our ancestor was one of them, which could easily be, it will be a difficult task to trace his English connections. A task for someone more fortunately endowed than I.

And so with this digression, we are now back to Matthew **I** who appears upon the scene, hand in hand with Hannah, at Farmington, Connecticut, in 1640. (See Appendix Item No. 5, "The Connecticut Towns")

Vol. **III,** page 620, of the "Colonial Families of the United States" gives his birth date as 1612 and says that he brought Hannah with him. It is possible and even probable that he did but as has been mentioned, an effort to verify these facts met with failure. Matthew **I** may have found Hannah in the new land and if so it was most likely in Hartford, Connecticut, where they are first recorded as a couple in 1636.

No matter where he got her, Matthew **I** had found an able and willing helpmate who performed her wifely duties at least nominally for those days. Hannah presented Matthew **I** with three sons and three daughters at nicely spaced intervals averaging considerably longer than the two year period prevailing in their time.

Keeping house and raising a family was a rugged experience in those days and left little leisure for anything else. However, by the time her second daughter, her fifth child, was born in 1654, Hannah had things so well organized that she had time for a little church work. She was admitted as a member of the church at Farmington on April 2nd, 1654. Apparently just in time for Mary (who unfortunately died young) to be baptized! At that time no one with any stature in the community could maintain it without a church affiliation for the ministers dispensed both privileges and punishments to their flocks and the latter with a heavy

hand. Since Hannah didn't join until she had lived there fourteen years and Matthew I for thirty-two, there is little doubt but that they had been members of some other Connecticut congregation during this period.

What we can fairly assume about Matthew I is that he was an active and ambitious man whose efforts were crowned with success. The Hartford Probate Court records are the source for his description as a man of considerable wealth for those days. Since the process of acquiring riches in the interval has remained a conundrum to most of us, we can fairly credit him with rare business acumen.

As one of the eighteen Proprietors of the Town of Farmington in 1672, having been admitted as a Freeman in 1657, he would be set apart by that distinction alone. New England's was a Town government, each a separate entity and each granting its own lands and administering to its own needs. Such an honor was not to be lightly come by. First Matthew I had to be a certified grade A product of the times, in a prime condition of respectability. He had to be an adherent of the true faith and a conformant to the prevailing restrictive view as to what constituted good conduct and preferably a man of substance, which he was. There was no seat in the chamber except for pious church members who were all-around exemplary characters, loyal and helpful to the authorities, acting according to prescribed rules and thinking along approved channels at least so far as could be outwardly observed. On top of all this he had to swear some prodigious oaths! (See" Notices concerning Early Freemen in New England" and "The Freeman's Oath" as reproduced in the Appendix, Items No. 1 and No. 2).

An old map of Farmington shows that Matthew I had acquired extensive land holdings along the beautiful Farmington River but in addition he had amassed a sum of cash money quite impressive for those times. It must be remembered that in the 17th and early 18th Century, the great obstacle to trade was the shortage of hard coin. The theory of Mercantilism which was behind England's colonial policy demanded an accumulation of gold in the national treasury in London. To get hold of some cash they could keep, the colonials dealt preferably with any country but England even if it was illegal which was usually the case. The law saw it as outright smuggling, but it was universally practised by the most upright men in the colonies with the knowledge and approval of their fellow townsmen. What coin did circulate was mostly Spanish or Dutch silver dollars, "pieces of eight" which had the value of their actual weight though invariably this had been reduced by a bit of judicious clipping that was hard to detect with the scales then in use. This scarcity of money is further attested by the fact that as late as the 1720's, a man

could be hanged for the stealing of a sixpence. From this evaluation of coin by weight there evolved a favorite and useful practice for keeping them. They were melted down for conversion into silverware or "plate" as it was called. In utensil form the silver could be displayed to impress the neighbors and at the same time if someone made off with a piece, it could be readily identified. As a result of the desire to own handsome plate that came with increasing prosperity, the silversmiths were kept busy hammering from dawn to dusk in all the principal centers of the colony.

A digest of Matthew I's will (nuncupative) from early Connecticut Probate Records is as follows:

> "Woodruff, Matthew Sr. of Farmington, Connecticut. Inventory: £252-05-00. Sept. 6, 1682"
>
> "To his son Samuel is bequeathed a large portion of the estate upon condition that he maintain his mother. He gives to sons John and Matthew, lands and to his daughter Hannah Seamore (Seymour) £5, to be paid by her brother John. Court Record, will proven 14th December, 1682. Administration to Samuel. One daughter (Elizabeth) not being mentioned in the will, this Court orders paid to her what the rest of the daughters have had and the remainder to be distributed according to the will."

A home, a wife and family, spiritual and material success and the respect of his fellow citizens. What venturesome spirit could have asked for more? For one adventurer at least, the big gamble had paid off!

MATTHEW WOODRUFF I

From the Woodruff Genealogy compiled by George N. MacKenzie, L.L.B., George S. Stewart, A.B., assisted by Frederick O. Woodruff and published by the Everett Print at Boston, Mass., in 1925. (The Boston Public Library has a copy and there is one in my possession).

"MATTHEW WOODRUFF (I) and wife Hannah, came from Hartford to Farmington in 1640-1. He was one of the eighteen proprietors of the Town of Farmington in 1672, having been admitted as a freeman in 1657. (History of Southington, Conn., Page CCIVII.) He died at a very old age in 1682. He was a man of considerable wealth for those days. He joined the church March 1st, 1672. His will probated Dec. 13th, 1682, mentions his wife, Hannah, who was admitted to the church in Farmington, April 2, 1654, also his will mentions three sons and a daughter named Hannah, wife of Richard Seymour, 2nd, but the Probate Court supplies the name of another daughter, Elizabeth, wife of John Broughton of Northampton, Mass."

"MATTHEW AND HANNAH WOODRUFF had children as follows:

"**John** - b. 1643; d. 1692.

Matthew - b. 1646; d. Nov. 1691 at Farmington, Conn.; m. Mary Plumb* at Milford, Conn., June 16, 1668. She was born Dec. 23, 1653. He married 2nd wife, Sarah North in 1686. She was born Dec. 23, 1653; d. 1692. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Bird) North. Matthew lived in Milford, Conn., until death of his first wife, then returned to Farmington, Conn.

Hannah - b. 1648; m. Richard Seymour..

Elizabeth - b. 1651 ;m. in 1678 John Broughton of Northampton.

Mary - b. Nov. 1654; (died young).

Samuel - b. Farmington, Conn., Aug. 26, 1661; d. Jan. 8, 1742."

*—Milford Vital Records ("The American Genealogist" by Donald Lines Jacobus) record this marriage as follows:

"Wood Rouffe, Matthew, married by Mr. Senn,
16 June, 1668, to Mary Plumb."

This disposes briefly of all six of Matthew **I**'s and Hannah's children. The third son, Samuel, remained in Farmington until the birth of his sixth child when he removed to the South part of the Town which is now Southington, Conn., where he was the first white settler. He married Rebekah Clark and his descendants are traced to the present day Woodruffs of Boston in this genealogy. Samuel was the great-great-great-great grandfather of Frederick O. Woodruff, the author.

The 1914 edition of "Armoury and Lineages of Canada" traces the lineage of the family from Matthew **I.** to date of publication. The information was furnished mostly by Thomas Adams Woodruff from family records and the previous studies by Woodruffs of Connecticut and others quoted in the pages following.

MATTHEW WOODRUFF II

So now we are concerned with Matthew **I**'s second son, Matthew Jr. or Matthew **II**, a solid chip off the old block who, according to the record, died at forty five which was probably no early age for the time. Within that span of years he found time to father seven children by his first love, Mary Plumb (Plum). We do not know when Mary passed to her reward, only that she certainly left Matthew **II** in no small predicament for he had seven teen-agers to cope with and was no doubt at his wit's end. Turning forty, he couldn't have been considered a great "catch" so he must have had either a rather nice personality or something more concrete to offer. Having lived all his married life in Milford so that Mary could be near her

folks, he most likely decided that since his neighbors were only too well acquainted with his brood, the situation there was hopeless! So Matthew **II** put on his best linsey-woolsey, tied his new sleeves to his doublet and sallied back to Farmington to scan the prospects. Either he couldn't find a young belle there who could be inveigled into shouldering the load or else he sought someone who might have a more mature and competent approach to the problem of seven youngsters, the eldest still in his teens. At any rate, success crowned his efforts for he found there and married in 1686, Sarah North, age thirty-three.

The Norths were a prominent family for whom there is a well-established Connecticut genealogy. Matthew **II** and Sarah set up housekeeping, this time in Farmington and probably for the same reason his first home was in Milford. Matthew **II** and Sarah, daughter of John and Mary (Bird) North were destined to spend six years together and to die within a year of each other but not before Sarah had produced two more sons for Matthew **II.** For only three of his nine children could Matthew **II** think of any finer names than his own which he gave to his first born (Matthew III), his mother's and those of his brothers and sisters. The three seemingly irrelevant names were no doubt in the family tradition as was the custom. Laudable certainly, but very confusing historically.

Of Matthew **II**'s short life in Farmington there is but little trace. Only the record of a Town meeting in 1690 which shows Matthew and one of his wife's relatives, Samuel North, being chosen "Hawards" for the community. This was an ancient office having to do with rights to the commons and line fence disputes.

But there is one illuminating sidelight. Whether Matthew **II** was ever tempted to chuck his cares and stray from the straight and narrow paths of Colonial virtue we shall never know. But it is a fact that either local justice went astray or else he had a mis-informed and malicious neighbor in the person of one John Rue. At this late date we can do no better than to accept the judgment of the competent authorities for Matthew emerged unscathed from the vicious persecution of a scandal that must have rocked Farmington and led to no little discomposure in his own household. Here are the facts from the "Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Oct. 1706 - Oct. 1716."

"May 13, 1686. John Rue having appealed the Judgment of the Court of Assistants wherein they freed Matthew Woodrofe from being the reputed father of the child that Hannah, the now wife of sayd Rue, brought forth next after her marriage with Rue, the Court having heard what hath been presented to them, see no reason to alter or vary from what the Court hath done."

About Matthew **II**'s first child, Matthew **III** there is an interesting mention in Payne Kenyon Kilbourne's "Litchfield History". Whether or not Matthew III subscribed to the then popular belief that the only good Indian was a dead Indian is uncertain but not so the fact that he did make claim for one scalp taken in the line of duty. Even in 1756 there were only 1366 people in Litchfield so in 1725 the legislature could not have had too many weighty matters on the agenda because we find one Nathaniel Watson of Windsor and Matthew Woodruff of Farmington appearing before it with a petition for the bounty for having shot an Indian during the preceding summer while on the King's service.

Matthew **III** apparently inherited the family propensity for acquiring additional land. One such transaction is mentioned in the "Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut" where he bought a piece from John Judd, late of Farmington, for £3 paid before his (Judd's) death and the remainder £7 to his widow.

Matthew **III** who lived to the age of 84, lies in the old cemetery on the main highway of Farmington along with 39 other Woodruffs whose stones can still be deciphered.

Matthew **II**'s third child, John Woodruff also moved to Litchfield where he filled a number of Town offices such as townsman, fence-viewer, chimney-viewer, etc.

While Matthew II died quite young and in fact only nine years after his father Matthew **I**, he too amassed a considerable estate. Here is the Probate Record and it is interesting to note that daughter Mary was left £16 more than her sisters because "she is infirm in her leggs" which is scarcely sufficient data upon which to base a medical diagnosis at this late date:

"Woodroofe, Matthew, of Farmington.
Inventory: £ 334 - 08 - 02. 18 Nov. 1691.
The children, Matthew 23, John 19, Samuel 14, Nathaniel 5, Joseph 2½, Mary 21 (infirm in her leggs), Sarah 17, Hannah 10, Elizabeth 12. To the widow, ⅓ of the Real Estate £72 - 06 - 00 during her life and £43 - 00 - 00 of the Personal Estate.
To Matthew, eldest son, £60 - 12 - 00.
To the other 4 sons, each £30 - 06 - 00.
To Mary because of her infirmity £40 - 00 - 00.
To Sarah, Hannah and Elizabeth, each £24 - 00 - 00.

MATTHEW WOODRUFF II

From the Woodruff Genealogy by George N. MacKenzie:

"Matthew **II** b. 1646; d. Nov. 1691 at Farmington, Conn., m. Mary Plumb at Milford, Conn., June 16, 1668. He m. 2nd wife, Sarah North in 1686; She was the daughter of John and Mary (Bird) North. Matthew lived in Milford until death of his first wife, then returned to Farmington. He was a freeman in 1671. Administration of his estate granted Dec. 3, 1691 (See Hartford Probate Court Records)
Hannah . . . . . .
Elizabeth . . . . . .
Mary . . . . . .
Samuel . . . . . .

From Gad Andrew's WOODRUFF MSS. GENEALOGY (Copy in possession of the Connecticut Historical Society at Hartford, Conn.) there is fuller information:

"MATTHEW **II** (Matthew **I**) WOODRUFF, born say 1646; he married 16 June, 1664, Mary, daughter of Robert Plum of Milford to which place he removed, where he remained until after the death of his wife about 1684, when he returned to Farmington and there married for second wife in 1686, Sarah, daughter of John North . She died in 1692, aged 39 years; he died in Farmington, Nov. 1691, aged 45 years. His children were: by M. (I):
Matthew, b. 1668; d. 1751.
Mary, b. 1670.
John, b. 1672.
Sarah, b. 1674.
Samuel, b. 1677.
Elizabeth, b. 1679.

All the foregoing were by wife 1, and b. in Milford. The two following were by second wife and were born in Farmington:
Nathaniel, b. 1687; d. 1758.
Joseph, b. 1689; d. 1737.

As you may have noted, the above record omits the daughter Hannah, born in 1681 as disclosed by the Probate Court Record as Matthew **II's** last child by his first wife, Mary Plumb (Plum).

Our concern is now with Nathaniel **I,** the eighth child of Matthew **II,** born in 1687 in Farmington by Matthew **II's** second wife, Sarah (Bird) North. As a demonstration of the old adage that love is engendered by propinquity, we find young Captain Nathaniel selecting for his bride a Captain's daughter, Thankful (Woodward) Wright. Her father, Captain

Benjamin Wright of Northfield, Mass., had married Thankful Taylor, a Captain's daughter as was her mother before her. (See Appendix, Item No. 3 for the genealogy of this family).

With the military tradition so firmly established in her family, the mother of the bride could no doubt look upon the youthful Nathaniel with favor.

In a book descriptive of early American furniture which has been preserved in various Connecticut homes and museums, the "Hadley Chest" by Clair Franklin Luther, there is a picture and description of Thankful's chest which is now in the Suffield Historical Society's collection.

The Wrights were a pioneer family of great distinction. Captain Benjamin devoted a long and active life to the service of his country and his king. A positive and colorful character, he became the hero of his home town and a top ranking scout for the Colonies. One of the ever recurring threats from the French in Canada found Captain Benjamin in his sixtieth year, again offering his services to the Governor. The interesting story of Captain Benjamin and his family is related in "A Puritan Outpost" by Herbert G. Parsons, some pages of which are quoted in the Appendix, Item No. 4.

Because it is contemporary, there are inserted here some notes from the history of the First Church of Christ Congregational in Farmington:

A bronze tablet in the Church is inscribed:—

In Memory of
Judah Woodruff
Resident of Farmington
Member of this Church
Architect and
Builder of this
Meeting House
in 1771

> "Colonel Fisher Gay and Capt. Judah Woodruff in obedience to the vote, went to Boston for timber which was brought from the Province of Maine and was of the choicest quality. The Church was organized in 1652."

It was not until 1824 that stoves were introduced into the Church. Previous to this period foot stoves were the sole substitute, for the filling of which the people from a distance were dependent on the liberal fires which were kept burning at the hospitable houses in the vicinity."

"THE SEVEN PILLARS OF THE CHURCH"

"The seven Pillars of the Church who laid the foundations of the Church were among the most eminent of the early settlers and deserve such passing notice as the dim records of their time will allow. Whatever can be gleaned of Mr. Mather will be given in the future pages of this history His associates in the work have not been inappropriately termed the Seven Pillars of the Church. Comparatively little can be learned about them. The simple statement that they were chosen year after year to fill certain town offices and to perform many other public duties is nearly all that the records afford, a slender background on which to outline even the most incomplete sketch of their lives, yet sufficient to show in some degree the character of the men. Their names which stand first among the signatures to the Covenant were: David Wilton, William Clark, John Strong, Henry Cunliffe, Henry Woodward and Thomas Rule."

Henry Woodward was Thankful (Wright) Woodruff's great grandfather.

Captain Judah Woodruff, born in 1720 and died in 1819 was the youngest son of Captain Nathaniel I's brother, Joseph. He lived at the North end of the village of Farmington, near the home of Noadiah Woodruff. He served as 1st Lieutenant in the French War, fought at the Battle of Ticonderoga and again entered the army during the Revolutionary War.

Captain Judah was an architect and master builder, self-taught and ranked among the best in all New England. Between the wars he found time to build many of the fine houses of the Town and except for two, all are standing and in such excellent condition they should last another century. His crowning achievement was, of course, the Church which is still in use and is among the most beautiful of all New England churches. This Church is still a meeting house in plan but the old pews and the fine carved high pulpit with its sounding board were removed in 1836. This is unfortunate for the fine carving of the pulpit capitals and the vine ornament of the sounding board were likewise attributed to Judah's skilled hands. The extremely delicate white wooden steeple of the Church he built in Farmington is referred to in the Encyclopaedia Britannica as one of the most outstanding examples of Rennaisance Gothic architecture in America.

While no doubt the congregation was pleased with Captain Judah's work, that did not excuse in official eyes a degree of religious laxity on his part which had been observed and duly noted. Apparently Captain

Judah was so absorbed in the problems of building soundly with dry timbers that he found it expedient to skip a few dry sermons. In those days it was a serious matter to become a backslider and after tallying his absence on several occasions, he was formally charged and proceeded against but with what results there is no record. It is doubtful if this petty tyrrany had much effect on Captain Judah. A good craftsman knows the value of his own work and Captain Judah must have known that his creation of classic grace and enduring beauty which people still admire, would find him favor with his Maker.

And now back to Captain Nathaniel **I** who lived just over the alloted biblical span of three score years and ten. We do not know for certain that Nathaniel **I** was in the Army at the time of his marriage. It is most probable that he was but his military duties at that time could have involved no long campaigns in distant parts that kept him from his hearth and home for untoward intervals because Thankful blessed this fruitful union with nine children during the first nineteen years of their marriage.

We do know definitely that Nathaniel **I** was in the Army, most likely for the second or third time, in 1733 when the Assembly at Hartford appointed him as Ensign in the 1st Company or Trainband of the Litchfield Regiment. The military records disclose further that on October 14, 1736— "at a general assembly holden at New Haven in His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America, this Assembly do establish and confirm Mr. Nathaniel Woodruff of Litchfield to be Lieutenant of the 1st Company or Trainband in the Town of Litchfield and order that he be commissioned accordingly." This was followed by his appointment as Captain in the same regiment by the Assembly — "holden" at Hartford on May 11, 1738. This quite rapid military progress may well have been founded upon his previous military experience.

By this time you have no doubt noticed that there was no colonial counterpart for Margaret Sanger to encourage the frustration of Nature's design. Had there been Thankful would probably have had nothing to do with her anyway. As a woman she was aware that an immutable biological phenomenon would eventually release her from the travail of what she no doubt considered her wifely duty. By Divine Compensation she was granted an additional thirty years to enjoy life with Nathaniel after the birth of her last son, with all of her children but one living and for the most part happily married about her. Within a year of their Golden Wedding Anniversary she lost Nathaniel **I** at 72 but she herself lived to the ripe old age of 88.

Nathaniel **I**'s regard for his wife is evidenced by the naming of their third daughter in her honor. Evidently baby Thankful (2) died in childhood for her memory is commemorated with the birth of their fourth

daughter, Thankful (3), eight years later.

Captain Nathaniel I and Thankful raised this brood in Farmington but they moved to Litchfield during its early settlement at which time 60 adult males with their families comprised the population. Being primarily agricultural communities, these early villages were planned on a generous scale. Everyone acquired as much elbow room as he could afford. A plan of the village as laid out A.D. 1720-1725 which is annexed to the original deed, shows Nathaniel I located on one of the largest lots (20 acres) on North Street at the corner of Highway. The same map shows Eben (Ebenezer) Woodruff with a lot (5 acres) on Middle Street at the corner of Town Hill Street. Both are listed as among the original proprietors and early settlers of the town. Nathaniel I appears in the records of 1728 as one of the Listers (Assessors) of the Town. A century later another Nathaniel appears as a constable in 1830.

Among some of Nathaniel I's descendants who became prominent may be mentioned General Morris Woodruff and his son, the Honorable George C. Woodruff, a lawyer in Litchfield, who became a member of Congress.

Nathaniel I and Thankful are buried side by side in Litchfield's West Cemetery. Nathaniel's stone is of an excellent quality of red sandstone as were many others of that period. The incised inscription is almost as clear as if it had been cut two years ago instead of two centuries. By the time Thankful died, stone of this kind was apparently no longer available and in comparison the grey stone used for her marker has not weathered well though it can still be deciphered.

Litchfield is a lovely place today (See Appendix, Item No. 5 "The Connecticut Towns") and this old cemetery is well cared for. At the time I photographed these graves in 1957, I found a bronze marker carrying a small Stars and Stripes flying beside Nathaniel I. I believe this service is performed by the American Patriots Society and there were many of these little flags scattered throughout the burying ground. As far as Nathaniel I is concerned, this is an error since his service was for the King. Such a flag should fly beside the grave of his son Nathaniel Jr. or Nathaniel II but his resting place I could not discover.

These are the inscriptions:

"In Memory of
Mr. Nathaniel Woodruff,
Cap't. who
died November
the 13 A.D. 1758
in the 72nd year
of his age"

"Here lies the Body
of Mrs. Thankful Woodruff
The wife of Nath'l Woodruff,
Cap't. She died
Jan 31, 1774 in the
88th year of
her age"

Some years ago the State of Connecticut recorded all of the old Probate Court documents of the County of Litchfield on micro-film. Through the assistance of the State Library the Court records relating to both Nathaniel I and Nathaniel II were located and photostatic copies of these interesting papers prepared.

Nathaniel I was certainly a rich man for those days. His will disposes of £493 - s. 5 - d. 00 (old tenor) which presumably includes the value of the inventory of household goods and farm equipment of £60 - s. 14 - d. 02 but the house and real estate are in addition. This is the will in his own handwriting:

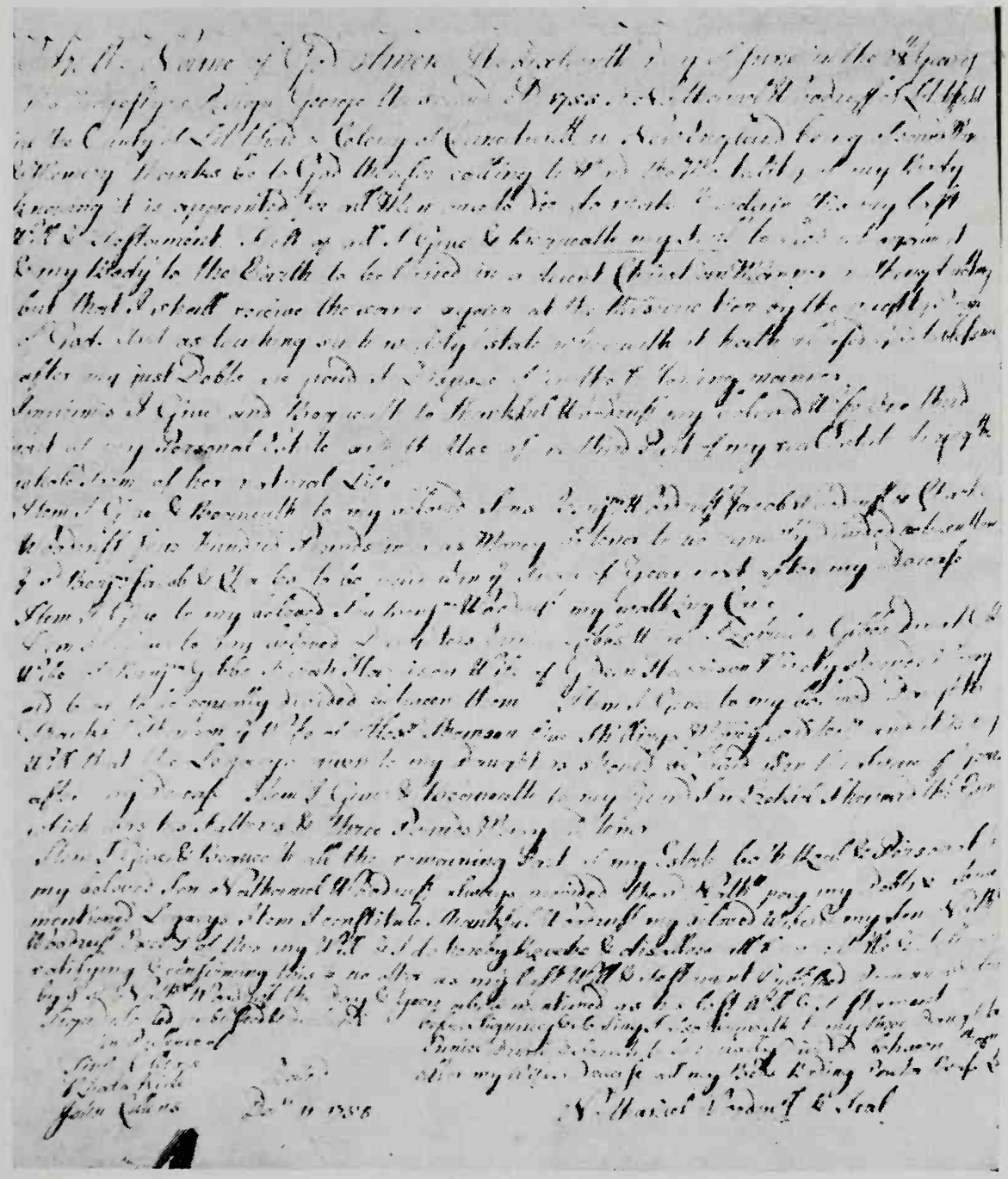
"In the Name of God Amen, the sixteenth Day of June in 28th Year of his Majesty's Reign George the second, AD 1755, I Nathaniel Woodruff of Litchfield in the County of Litchfield & Colony of Connecticut in New England, being of sound Mind & Memory Thanks be to God therefor, calling to Mind the Mortality of my Body knowing it is appointed for all Men once to die, do make and ordain this my laft Will & Testament . Firft of all I Give & Bequeath my Soul to God who gave it & my Body to the Earth to be buried in a decent Christian manner nothing doubting but that I shall receive the same again at the resurrection by the mighty Power of God. And as touching such worldly Estate where-with it hath pleafed God to blefs me, after my just Debts are paid I dispose of in the following manner. Imprimis, I give and Bequeath to Thankful Woodruff my beloved Wife one third Part of my Personal Estate and the use of one third Part of my real Estate during the whole Term of her natural Life.

Item. I Give & Bequeath to my beloved Sons Benjm. Woodruff, Jacob Woodruff & Charles Woodruff four hundred Pounds in or as Money, old tenor*, to be equally Divided between the 3 and Benjm., Jacob & Charles to be paid over the space of the Year next after my Deceafe.

*—In produce or goods at market value at the old rate of exchange.

Item. I Give to my beloved Son Benjm. Woodruff my walking Cane.

Item. I Give to my beloved Daughters Eunice Gibbs,



Wife of Zebulon Gibbs, Dinah Gibbs, Wife of Benjm. Gibbs, Sarah Harrison, Wife of Gideon Harrison, Ninety Pounds Money, old tenor, to be equally divided between them. Item. I Give to my beloved daughter Thankful Thomson, Wife of Alex Thomson, five Shillings Money, old tenor, and it is my wifh that the Legacys given to my Daughters should be paid over the space of 2 Years after my deceafe. Item. I Give & Bequeath to my Grand Son Ezekiel Shepard the Gun which was his Father's & three Pounds Money, old tenor.

Item. I Give & Bequeath all the remaining Part of my Estate both Real & Personal to my beloved Son Nathaniel Woodruff always provided that Nathl. pay my Debts & above mentioned Legacys. Item. I conftitute Thankful Woodruff my beloved Wife and my son Nathl. Woodruff Execrs. of this my Will & I do hereby breake & disallow all former Wills & Teftaments, ratifying & Confirming this and no other as my laft Will & Teftament. Published, Penned & Declared by & of Nathl. Woodruff the Day & Year above mentioned as his laft Will & Teftament before Signing & Sealing I also bequeath to my three Daughters Eunice, Dinah & Sarah to be equally Divided between them after my Wife's Deceafe, all my Beds, Beding, Pots, Pans, Linen.

Signed Sealed Published & Declared
in Prefence of

Timy. Collens	Dated	(Signed)
Rhoda Kide	Dec. 11, 1756	Nathaniel Woodruff
John Collens		& Seal."

No doubt as their sons and daughters married, Nathaniel I and Thankful gave each some of the household and farm belongings, leaving only enough for the two of them to carry on but that was plenty. The inventory as ordered by the Court reveals a vivid picture of life on a prosperous farm 200 years ago.

THE INVENTORY

"Litchfield, December 19, 1758. We the Subfscribers being appointed & sworn to apprife the Estate of Capt. Nathaniel Woodruff late of Litchfield, Deceafed, have apprifed and taken an Inventory of the same as follows, viz."

	£	s.	d.
CLOTHS			
	£	s.	d.
One Beaver Hat	1	10	0
Ditto		2	0
One Camblet Coat* (1)	1	10	0
Great Coat	1	0	0
One blue coat	1	15	0
One black waiftcoat	0	5	0
One old coat	0	1	6
One old waiftcoat	0	1	6
1 Pr. of Leather Breeches	0	12	0
2 Pr. of Shoes at 2/ each	0	4	0
1 Pair of Boots	0	4	0
4Yds. & a Half of Cloth	0	18	0
1 Pair of blue Stockins	0	2	0
1 Pair of gray Stockins	0	2	0
	8	7	0
BEDING			
Bedfted & Cord* (2)	0	6	0
Bed with Striped Ticken	0	3	0
Feather Bed	0	12	0
Ditto	0	6	0
2 Woollen Sheets	0	8	0
Bolfter & Pillow	0	8	0
Shagg Blanket* (3)	1	4	0
Striped Coverlet	0	2	6
1 Pillar Cafe	0	1	6
Ditto	0	0	9
1 Towel	0	0	0
13 Run of Woolen Yarn* (4)	0	19	6
1 Cheft	0	4	0
2 Knives & 2 Forks	0	2	0
PEUTER			
3 Peuter Platters	0	5	0
4 Plates	0	4	0
3 Ditto	0	2	0
1 Quart Bafin	0	1	8
1 Pint Cup	0	2	0
1 Quart Cup	0	2	0
Looking Glafs	0	5	6
5 Barrels	0	10	0
5 Ditto	0	5	0
1 Hogfhead	0	2	0
1 Water Pail	0	1	6
1 Cheefe Tub	0	1	6
1 Table	0	5	0
IRON			
Dragg Teeth* (5)	0	7	0
Draught Chain	0	11	0
Horfe Plow & Coulter	0	4	0
Horfe Chains, Clevey & 1 Pin* (6)	0	5	6
Iron Fetters	0	4	0
Stilliards* (7)	0	3	0
One Hoe	0	2	0
Dung Fork	0	3	0
Tongs & Peat	0	3	6
Iron Crow Bar	0	3	6
Frying Pan	0	3	0
Warming Pan	0	7	0
Tramel	0	6	0
Ditto	0	1	6
Iron Kettle	0	5	0
Skelet	0	2	0
Iron Pot	0	5	0
Brafs Kettle	0	10	0
Inch Auger	0	1	0
Six old chairs	0	4	0
Hetchel* (8)	0	8	0
1 Tee Pot	0	4	6
3 Trays	0	2	0
One meal bag	0	2	0
Handfaw	0	2	0
STOCK			
One Horfe	4	0	0
One Cow of Years old	3	0	0
One Ditto of Years old	2	16	0
1 Yoke of 3 Year old Steers* (9)			
1 Yoke of 1 Year old	4	0	0
One Yearling Heifer	1	10	0
8 Sheep at 6/s per head	2	8	0
2 Fatted Swine	3	0	0
1 Sow	0	14	0
2 Barrows	1	4	0
GRAIN			
6 Bufhels of Rye	0	18	0
3 Bufhels of Peas	0	12	0
8 Load of Hay	5	4	0
BEDS			
1 Feather Bed	1	2	0
Straked Bolfter* (10)	0	1	6
Pillow	0	1	6
Rofe Coverlet	0	8	0
Plad ditto	0	1	0
5 linnin Sheets	1	5	0
2 woollen Sheets	0	10	0
2 Napkins at 1/d each	0	2	0
2 Ditto at 9/d each	0	16	0
1 Pillow Cafe	0	1	0
Sum total	60	14	2

(Signed)
Supply Strong
Ezra Plum
Abraham Goodwin

* (1) or Camlet, originally the name of a costly eastern fabric but subsequently for substitutes made of combinations of wool, hair or linen.

(2) The cord was the "bedspring" to support the corn husk or feather mattress. It was made of rope, laced back and forth across the bed frame in one continuous strand. When it sagged it could be tightened with a wooden device called a "bed wrench".

(3) a coarse cloth having a nap on one side.

(4) Runs, knots and Skeins are measurements of length of yarn in spinning.

(5) a type of harrow usually a simple wooden frame with inserted teeth of wood or iron.

(6) (now Clevis) an iron bent to the form of an ox-bow with the two ends perforated to receive a pin, used to hold the draught chain to the plow or wagon.
(7) now steelyard) a graduated lever and fulcrum with moveable weight for weighing.
(8) (also hatchel) a many toothed instrument thru which the flax fibre was drawn, a handfull at a time, to separate the long fibres from the short.
(9) It took about four years to fully train a yoke of steers and usually they were not referred to as oxen until that age.
(10) striped.

NATHANIEL WOODRUFF I

From Julius Gay's Copy of Farmington Records: Genealogical Records, Vol. 1, Page 315 (From Town Records of Farmington) and—

From the GENEALOGICAL REGISTER OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF LITCHFIELD, CONN. . . . by George C. Woodruff, Hartford; press of Case, Lockwood & Brown; 1900; page 255.

WOODRUFF, NATHANIEL I, Capt., of Matthew **II** (Matthew **I**), from Farmington; b. 1686/7; d. Nov. 13, 1758; m. Thankful Wright, b. 1686, daughter of Benjamin and Thankful (Woodward) Wright of Northampton, Mass. She d. Jan. 31 ,1744. Children:

Eunice - b. 1710; m. Zebulon Gibbs; d. Dec. 29, 1793
Dinah - b. 1712; m. Benjamin Gibbs; d. Sept. 13, 1796
Thankful - b. 1714
Benjamin - b. 1715; d. Mar. 9, 1782
Jacob - b. 1717; d. Dec. 21, 1790
Charles - b. 1720; d. Sept. 13, 1802
Thankful - b. 1722; m. 1st Shepard; 2nd Alex Thomson
Sarah - b. Dec. 27, 1725; m. Gideon Harrison; d. Jan. 17
Nathaniel - b. May 3, 1728; m. 1st Nov. 5, 1749 Mary Kilbourne; m. 2nd Martha Umberfield (widow); d. 1807.

NATHANIEL WOODRUFF II

This brings us to the ninth and last child of Captain Nathaniel **I** and Thankful, Nathaniel Jr. or Nathaniel **II** about whom unfortunately not too much is known. Apparently he was a strong and vigorous man who inherited the family fertility gene. He married at twenty one, two years younger than his father and he died at seventy nine, seven years older. This early start enabled him to father two more children.

Nathaniel **II** and his bride, Mary Kilbourne (b. Jan. 17, 1730) who was the second daughter of Samuel and Mary (Garritt) Kilbourne of Litchfield, had eleven children. The eight girls and three boys bear many of the names with which we are already familiar; another Nathaniel **III** of course, another Thankful, another Sarah, another Mary and another

Hannah. Ezekiel, the tenth child was probably the source for the information comprising his biography as given in Dexter's Yale Biographies and Annals where he is listed as the tenth of eleven children of Nathaniel **II** and Mary (Garritt) Kilbourne. There is a paucity of birth and death dates for these children but the order in which they are listed suggests that Mary was the eleventh child and most likely Mary (Garritt) Kilbourne was her mother. This speculation is due to the fact that Nathaniel **II** may have been faced with the same dilemma that confronted his grandfather, Matthew **II**, – a houseful of motherless children. We do not know when Mary died but we do know that Nathaniel **II** married for the second time, a widow, Martha Umberfield (or possibly Humphreville).

It is doubtful that Martha bore Nathaniel **II** any more children. The only possibility is that she was the mother of his eleventh child, Mary. If she was, then at least we know Martha for a broad-minded woman.

The Kilbournes were a large and prominent family of Litchfield and many of them are buried in the West Cemetery including Samuel and Mary (Garritt) Kilbourne, the parents of Nathaniel **II**'s wife. Nathaniel **II**'s first child, Sarah, who married Ezra Plum Jr. (or Plumb) is also buried here and nearby are the graves of Ezra Plum Sr. and his wife who were among the first settlers. You may have noticed that the signature of one of the men who certified the Inventory of Nathaniel **I** is that of Ezra Plum.

You may recall that Nathaniel **II**'s grandfather, Matthew **II**, married a Mary Plum (Plumb) at Milford, Connecticut for his first wife but it has not been possible to establish her as of the same family. A history of Litchfield County by J. W. Lewis (1881) has this to say: "The first of the name Plumb (Plum) in America of whom we have any knowledge was Ezra who was one of the early settlers in Litchfield County. He had two sons, Ezra and Ebenezer. Ezra **II** was born in Litchfield and married Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel Woodruff and had a son John."

Nathaniel II followed in his father's footsteps for we find him also commissioned as Ensign on June 5, 1767, by the General Assembly at Hartford in the same Litchfield regiment.

The only other record of Nathaniel II uncovered has to do with the political situation of his time. The pro-revolutionists and the Government they established was a one-party organization led by violent Whigs. Their Committees ran the country and furnished the delegates for the Colonial and Continental Congresses. Among the most important of these Committees was the Committee of Safety which had many local branches. One of its principal duties was the conscription of men for the army but another was the surveillance of fellow citizens suspected of Loyalist

sympathies. Connecticut Records list Nathaniel **II** as a member of the Litchfield Committee of Safety so it is apparent that Nathaniel **II** forswore his allegiance to the King and decided to become an "American."

No doubt Nathaniel **II** is buried in the West Cemetery of Litchfield like his father and mother. Many old stones have fallen or become unreadable. This presumption is based on the fact that a search of the Probate files on deposit at the State Library disclosed a bond, dated July 10, 1807 granting administration to the widow Martha as well as an Inventory, 2 Returns to Court and an Account. These papers all refer to Nathaniel as 'of Litchfield.'

Fortunately the papers from the Probate Court of Litchfield County relating to Nathaniel **II** with the exception of the will which has not been located, are on microfilm at the Connecticut State Library. For the further light these records shed on the times and customs of long ago they have been reproduced from photostats as follows:

RETURN TO COURT

"Martha Woodruff Admsx Account against the Estate of Nath-l Woodruff, late of Litchfield dec-d"

To expense of Coffin	$4.25
To the Appraisers & Commisfioners	12.
To my time & trouble	4.11
To the Court of Probate	7.00
	$27.36

Litchf-d Jan-y 25, 1808

(signed) Martha Woodruff

Evidently Martha was in just a little doubt as to the amount she should claim for her time and trouble. She first asked $4.46 and then with heavier strokes of her quill, changed this to $4.11.

RETURN TO COURT

"Agreeably to an order of the Court of Probate for the District of Litchfield, I have sold that part of the late dwelling House of Nath-l Woodruff late of Litchfield which was inventoried in the Estate of the dec. to Morris Seymour Esq. of W. Litchfield, for the sum of Twenty Dollars & I have executed a conveyance thereof. — Litchfield Jan.y 25th 1808.

(signed) Martha Woodruff
Administratrix

It is difficult to envisage the hardships so cheerfully shouldered by our pioneer ancestors. Wringing a living from a refractory soil with scant knowledge and crude implements, many of which they had to fashion for themselves, was a laborious way of life. To go hungry was the only alternative to the long hours of unremitting toil from dawn to dusk that faced every able-bodied member of a farm household. The only abundance achieved lay in the multiplicity of tedious and never ending tasks which were alloted to the very old and the very young.

The ever fluctuating value of money makes it hard to relate the prices shown in these farm inventories to values of today. Probably the best way is to keep in mind that a skilled man's labor then brought him a shilling for a long day's work, about two cents an hour! By the early part of the 19th century wages had crept up to $.50 per day and the cost of goods in like proportion.

THE INVENTORY

The Inventory, the goods & Estate of Mr. Nathaniel Woodruff Late Deceased of Litchfield is as follows (Viz.)

Page 1st

one old bever hat	$ 1.25
one loose coat	3.00
two pr. Small Cloathes	.25
two old Vests	.25
one yellow under Vest	.17
one pr Mittens	.12
one old straight bodied Coat	.50
one pair of old Boots	1.00
one pr Shoes	.50
one pr blue woolen Stockings	.50
one do. white Cotton	.25
one do. black worsted	.12
two old linen Shirts	.25
5 yds full Cloath* (1)	5.85
½ yd Striped linen Cloath	.50
one bed quilt	1.25
one do. Calico	1.00
one wool & toe* (2) Coverlet	1.75
one Rose do. - do - do -	2.00
3 old bed quilts	1.00
one pr linen Sheets	2.00
one old pr. do. do. do.	.75
one pr do hempans*	.50
one linen & toe Sheet	.75
one diaper* (3) table Cloath	.50
one do. do. do. do. do.	.67
one do. do. do. do.	.50
two towels	.50
two old do. do. do. do. do.	.25
3 pillow Cases	.75
one pr. pillow cases	.84
one old under bed* (4) & pillow	.25
one underbed	.34
Bedstead & Cord	1.34
one old Do. & Do.	.34
one featherbed	5.00
one old straked* (4a) featherbed & boulsters	5.00
	41.78

2nd

2 Dry Casks with Covers	$ .25
one old half Bushel	.20
one Chest & drawers	.75
one Breakfast table	1.73
one small do. do. do. do.	.17
5 Bed (or Reed) Chairs	.67
5 old do.	.60
2 old Winsor Chairs	.23
1 Greate Chair	.25
1 Coarse hetchell* (5)	.25
1 fine do. do.	1.00
1 water pail	.17
1 Sauce* (6) barrell with cover	.42
13 old barrels	2.17
two old tubs	.12
one old churn	.60
one bible	.50
5 knives & forks	.12
one Iron Candlestick	.06
4 blue Edged Plates	.17
4 do. white	.08
4 small blue Edged do.	.08
2 toe cloath towels	.17
1 ovil Soup plate	.17
2 white do.	.04
1 Earthen qt. bole	.06
1 do. & one do. floured	.04
one Cream pot	.04
one pt. mug	.04
one qt. do. do.	.06

1 black tea pot	.06
3 tea Cups & Saucers	.06
1 tin canister	.03
1 Vinegar cruett	.06
1 half Gill Greess* (7)	.02
1 puter platter	.20
3 table Spoons & 3 Small do.	.04
1 tin Skimmer	.02
1 pr of Sheers	.08
1 Choping Knife	.06
3 old jugs	.12
1 qt glats Bottle	.50
3 Milk pans	.17
	$12.63

3rd

one pr of Stillyards* (8)	$ .25
one Warming pan	.75
one brafs Skimmer	.06
one Gridiron	.50
two flatirons	.75
one Copper tea Kittle	1.50
one frying pan	.34
two Bushel Baskets	.50
one hominye Iron pot	.25
one fire Shovel & 2 pr of tongs	.50
one pr handirons* (9)	.50
one brafs Kittle	3.00
one small do.	1.00
one Crane, hooks & trammels* (10)	2.00
one Small do. do. do. do.	.30
one large loom quill wheel & 1 reel	3.25
one Great wheel & one double Small do. & reel	1.50
one Breadtree	.12
old Iron	.25
one Small Crowbar	.92
one Salt Mortar	.25
one Dung fork	.42
two Small Iron pitch forks	.30
one Broken Draugh Chain	.75
the half of an old plow	.83
one old mens Saddle & bridle	.50
horse traceys & coller	1.17
one Nale hammer	.12
one old grey horse	5.50
one Sow & 2 pigs	8.00
one half of four acres of Rye on Mr. Elnathan Mitchells Land	3.50
one Basket Iron hoped	.50
one open Cupboard	1.25
	41.33

4th

Three wevers Reeds* (11)	$ 1.00
one pair wool Cards* (12)	.17
one old one 25, & one lafeboner (?) 4	.29
one Rofting hook	.12
one old bred bafket 3, one Earthen Creempot 8,	.11
one Jappan molases Cup & pepperbox	.08
one tin flower Duster	.02
one Small bagg	.06
one Run & 7 knots whitened toe yarn* (13)	.20
3 Runs & 16 Do. Course Do. Do.	.34
12 lbs. flese 1.40 & 10 lbs. corse toe 40	1.80
one womans Saddal	.25
one grane been or box	.25
Six piggs Sold for	6.67
one Do. given to Nathl Browns Son worth	1.00
one very old flaxbrake* (14)	.06
Six Chesetnut poles	1.00
one old laddor	.25
4 lodes of old Dry wood	2.00
ten hens	1.25
one wood Sled for one horse	.06
30 lbs. Chees 2.50; 6 lbs. buttor 1 Dollar	3.50
4 Do. hogs lard .50; 3 Do. Sopegrees 17	.67
2 barils Cyder 2.67	2.67
half a baril vineger	.75
2 hams 1.50; & 25 lbs. pork 2.50	4.00
one pound Shushong tea* (15) (a prefente)	.91
3 Do lofe Shugger (Do)	.66
12 Do. wheet flower (Do.)	.48
2 bufhels Rye	.67
25 lbs masten flower* (16)	.75
Carried forward	$37.04
5th brot forward	
one bufhell of poore ears of Corn	.25
12 quarts Dry beens	.34
one Iron Wedge (at prefent loft)	.25
the north parte of the house where the widow now lives	20.00
three bufhells potatoes	.88
three hundreds of hay	1.50
a pare of plow Irons	.58
7 lbs Dryde Appels	.50
	$24.15

Taken by us (signed)

Ozias Lewis
Eben-r Bolles
Thomas Trowbridge
} apprifors Under Oath

Litchfield July 22nd - 1807

41.78
12.63
41.33
37.04
24.15
———
156.93
20.
———
136.93

Nathaniel Woodruff
Inventory
Accepted July 22nd.
1807

THE CREDITORS

"We the Subscribers Being appointed by the Hon. Court of Probate for the District of Litchfield Commisoners to Examine and adjuft the Clames of the Creditors to the Estate of Mr. Nathaniel Woodruff late of Litchfield Deceased Find Due as follows (viz)

to Amos Galpin on Book	$ 2.18
to Elnathan Mitchel on Do.	2.50
to Doct Samuel Buell for laft Sicknefs	4.14
to Nicholas Ritch on Book	12.00
to Wm Kinfsell Do. Do.	4.25
to Levi Coe Do. Do.	6.25
to Doct D. Sheldon for laft Sicknefs	2.00
to Julias Demming Esqr on Book	21.73
to Frederick Demming Do. Do.	3.29
	———
	$58.34

(signed) Ozias Lewis
Ebenr Bolles
Thomas Trowbridge
Commisoners Under Oath

Litchfield Jany 6th 1808

°(1) Most of the homespun was used as it came from the loom but by this time there had sprung up many small fulling mills where the cloth could be improved. The hot water, soap and fuller's earth together with vigorous beating, often with mechanical power, caused the fibres to felt or mat together. At the same time the cloth shrank in dimensions but became firmer and heavier and thoroughly clean and, of course, much more expensive.

(2) The flax fibre was drawn a handfull at a time through various sizes of many-toothed "Hatchels" to clean and comb it into long strands. The short and broken fibre left was less valuable but could be roughly spun and found a place as filling or woof in the poorer fabrics, the warp being supplied by the long flax. It was called tow.

(2a) Both the native hemp and the imported fibre were used as early as flax.

(3) embroidered or woven to produce a particular kind of surface pattern.

(4) also trundle bed. A low child's bed which could be pushed under an adult's bed.

(4a) Striped.

(5) See (2)

(6) probably for keeping apple sauce which was made by boiling down cider until quite thick and adding apples during the process. This was also called apple-butter and was stored for long periods.

(7) grease, a carefully hoarded by-product.

(8) Steelyards. A hand balance for weighing.

(9) old form of andirons.

(10) The Crane consisted of a vertical iron support having a horizontal swinging arm from which "S" shaped iron hooks held stewpots above the fire. The trammel was the next improvement, actually an adjustable pot hook. It consisted of a plain rod having a hook at the top for the crane arm and a swinging stirrup which linked it where selected to a notched rod terminating in a hook for the pot so that the distance between the hooks could be varied to suit the intensity of the fire.

(11) a weaver's instrument for separating the threads of the warp.

(12) a hand device in the nature of a comb which was drawn thru flax or wool so the fibres would lie parallel and could then be drawn out and twisted into yarn on the spindle.

(13) measurements of length of yarn.

(14) A heavy wooden beam hinged to another beam supported saw horse fashion. The upper beam was lifted and dropped on a handful of flax to crush and loosen the non fibrous portion and separate it from the true fibre.

(15) Undoubtedly "Souchong", from Taiwan (Formosa) and still a favorite of connoisseurs.

(16) made from beech nuts or acorns.

NATHANIEL WOODRUFF II

From George C. Woodruff's GENEALOGICAL REGISTER, page 257:

"Woodruff, Nathaniel Jr., of Nathaniel; b. 1728; d. July 1807; m. Mary Kilbourn, Nov. 5, 1749. He m. 2nd, Martha Umberfield (widow). Children:

Sarah - b. July 13; d. 1781; m. June 8, 1775 Ezra Plumb Jr. Issue: John, David and Elizabeth.

Hannah - b. Dec. 8; m. Pierce.

Samuel (Capt.) - b. Aug. 9, 1753.

Anne - b. - m. Abel Darling

Thankful - b. - m. Nathaniel Brown and had among others, Rev. Solyman Brown, A.M., M.D., (Yale, 1813) and Augustus Woodruff Brown, M.D., both of New York City.

Nathaniel - b. - d. age 14

Sybil - b. - m. Levi Graniss

Rhoda - b. - d. 1838, unmarried.

Asenath - b. - m. Jas. Buel (b. June 16, 1784) and Josiah Grant (d. Nov. 15, 1789) of Poultney, Vt.

Ezekiel - b. - m. Sally Hall of Middletown, Conn., June 30, 1782.

Mary - b. - m. John Russell of Middletown, Conn., and settled in Windham, Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

This genealogical register is not very complete and a few details have been added which were obtained from the "Kilborn Genealogy", by P. K. Kilbourne which shows also the following data for the ninth child, Asenath:

"Asceneth - m. (1) James Buel of Litchfield
(2) Josiah Grant of Poultney, Vt.
Issue by m. (1):

Ursula m. Peter Wheeler and lived in New Haven, Conn.
Polly m. — Ranney and settled on banks of Susquehanna, Pennsylvania.
Ezekiel b. Oct. 27, 1775 in Litchfield; m. Sept. 20, 1798 Sally Thompson of Goshen and settled in Castleon, Vt.
Issue by m. (2):
Chauncey

So now we know Ezekiel, my great-great grandfather, the founder of the Upper Canada Woodruffs, who is buried in St. Davids.

From: DEXTER'S YALE BIOGRAPHIES AND ANNALS, 1778-1792; page 134. (Ten descendants of Matthew Woodruff I in the male line, are listed as Yale graduates in the College Records from 1778 to 1836). (See appendix, item No. 20).

EZEKIEL WOODRUFF, B.A., YALE 1779

"Ezekiel Woodruff was the tenth in a family of eleven children of Nathaniel Woodruff, of Litchfield, Connecticut and grandson of Captain Nathaniel and Thankful (Wright) Woodruff. He was born on July 29, 1763.

His mother was Mary, second daughter of Samuel and Mary (Garritt) Kilbourn of Litchfield.

He is said to have served as an adjutant in the Revolutionary Army during the later part of the war, but certainly resigned in season for his marriage, in Middletown, Connecticut, on June 30, 1782, to Sarah, sixth child of Captain Giles and Anna (Lord) Hall, of that town. She was born on May 23, 1761.

He studied law and began practice in Litchfield, but within a few years removed to Middletown, where he followed his profession, and also served as City Clerk from 1786 to his resignation in 1789.

In July, 1795, he removed with his family to Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada, at the mouth of the Niagara River. He died at Niagara Falls on January 7, 1837, in his 74th year. His wife died on November 26, 1836, aged 71½ years.

He left five sons and two daughters. Two of the sons were leading merchants and prominent in public affairs; both were members of the

Assembly of Upper Canada. The eldest daughter married Samuel De Veaux, who founded De Veaux College at Niagara Falls."

In the Colonies sentiment was about equally divided at the outbreak of the War of the American Revolution but the dissident elements quickly gained the upper hand, re-inforced as they continually were by the stupid acts of an uncomprehending British Parliament. To the concommitant horrors of war, this bitter struggle for self government engendered the disruption of families and the destruction of life-long friendships and not infrequently pitted father against son, brother against brother.

Ezekiel is said to have served with the Revolutionary Army as an adjutant during the latter part of the war, at which time he was barely nineteen. Since it was written later, it is easy to understand the somewhat petulant remark in Dexter's Yale Biographies to the effect that he certainly resigned in season for his marriage. As a matter of fact, the major battles had been long over and the Army itself was disbanded by the following year. Dexter's does not, of course, mention that had Ezekiel stayed in the Army to the bitter end, all he would have to show for it would be a larger bundle of the dubious script with which the officers were dismissed in lieu of back pay owed them by a bankrupt government. Since he was in a hurry to get married and set up his law practice he seems to have done the discreet thing.

Ezekiel's choice of a profession may have been influenced by the fact that his home town of Litchfield was the site of the first school of law in America. He may have received some preliminary training there but a check of the only records available does not disclose his name. No list of students or graduates prior to the year 1798 has survived. In that year the Law School entered on its second and most important phase. Heretofore Tappan Reeve had administered the school alone. He held it in the little building adjoining his South Street house, later the property of Judge Lewis B. Woodruff who donated it to the Litchfield Historical Society. Aaron Burr, the brilliant military and political leader who graduated from the College of New Jersey (now Princeton) in 1772 began studying law in this celebrated school conducted by his brother-in-law, Tappan Reeve. Burr, you may recall, became Vice President under Thomas Jefferson but his quarrel with Alexander Hamilton whom he killed in a duel practically ended his career.

Another man considered among the most brilliant of his time was Uriah Tracy, a native of Norwich, Connecticut, who settled in Litchfield in 1680 and practised law there. It may have been that Ezekiel and Tracy formed a law partnership for they are identified together in the Public Records of the State. When the Listers (Assessors) published the list for

the year 1782 of those whose names had been omitted or whose assessment had been deemed too low, included were "Ezekiel Woodruff and Uriah Tracy, Attorneys at Law". Of course it is possible that their names were so linked because they were the only two men of the same profession on the list. Uriah Tracy rose to the rank of Major General of the Militia, served Litchfield as Representative for nine sessions, became a member of Congress for three years and United States Senator for eleven. At some period both he and Ezekiel must have decided that Middletown offered wider scope for their abilities. They are found there together again, Uriah as Representative for the County of Litchfield and Ezekiel as a practising lawyer as well as the Town Clerk. (The Middlesex Gazette of May 23, 1789).

On June 30th, 1782, Ezekiel married his boyhood sweetheart, Saran Hall (See Appendix, Item No. 6 for the ancestral line of Sarah Hall) upon whom he had been casting admiring glances for at least four years.

Another reason for Ezekiel to transfer his practice from Litchfield to Middletown is that it was Sarah's home and that seems to have been the custom of the times, at least for the Woodruffs.

Of Ezekiel's early spiritual life in Middletown, a few facts and some plausible conjectures can be drawn from Edwin Stearn's "Middletown, Ct. Records of First Church (Congregational), Vol. V:

His little daughter Sally was ill and though six years of age, she had never been baptized. A little child's sickness could be a terrifying thing for the young parents. So besides the doctor, a hurry call undoubtedly went to the minister as well and the worthy reverend appeared to perform the ceremony—

P.208 "5 Aug. 1789 bp. Sally Woodruff, dau. Ezekiel, sick at her father's house."

Ezekiel and Sarah were not full-fledged members of the church so the occasion was opportune for some pointed admonition by the minister which promptly produced the desired result—

ibid "6 Sept. 1789 Ezekiel Woodruff and Sarah, his wife, owned the covenant"

The arrival of a new baby the following year, Henry Augustus, reminded the family that they were still remiss in their duties so this event was seized upon to rectify matters—

P.210 "1 Aug. 1790, bp. Maria, dau. Ezekiel Woodruff; Richard Hall, son Ezekiel Woodruff; Augustus, son Ezekiel Woodruff."

While in Litchfield, Ezekiel entered the Masonic Order. His certificate, though now lost, was in the possession of Edward Haynes Woodruff and is quoted in the latter's diary as follows:

> "From a Masonic Certificate in my possession, the bearer thereof, our true and well beloved Brother Ezekiel Woodruff of New Hartford, Connecticut, hath been regularly entered an Apprentice, passed a Fellow Craft and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Given under our hands and the Seal of St. Paul's Lodge in said Litchfield, this 3rd day of Feb., A.D. 1785, of Masonry, 5785."

Kilbourne's LITCHFIELD HISTORY says that "to this goodly company were soon added Oliver Walcott Jr., Ashbel Baldwin, Ezekiel Woodruff (etc.) who all became residents here before the close of the War." But Litchfield was still a very small place and Ezekiel must have felt that it did not offer sufficient latitude for a rising young lawyer of his talent. In Middletown he could at least augment his income by the appointment he had obtained as City Clerk, which office he held for three years until he resigned.

The bitter aftermath of the War led to much persecution of those with any Loyalist sympathies who had not already fled the country. Apparently Ezekiel was becoming more and more dissatisfied with conditions as they were developing under the Continental Congress. (See In Retrospect – The United Empire Loyalists).

In July, 1795, at the age of thirty two, Ezekiel came to a momentous decision. Once again he determined to place himself and his family under the protection of the King against whom he had fought. By his choice of Newark, now the peaceful village of Niagara-on-the-Lake at the mouth of the Niagara River, is clearly demonstrated the evolution of his sentiments. (See In Retrospect–Niagara).

Accustomed as we are to the many and varied means of rapid transport available today, it takes some reflection to envisage the trials and tribulations of such a journey for Ezekiel and Sarah. They were burdened with all the worldly goods that could be managed and five children. Of these, the youngest (my great grandfather William) only two years of age was carried in the hand-made walnut cradle which still exists. The eldest child, Sarah, was only twelve.

No doubt the family spent many anxious hours that Spring of 1795 in the preparation and outfitting for this adventure. The Mohawk Trail was the natural escape route for all Loyalist because the Mohawks were England's loyal allies. From family records and an old newspaper

published after William's death and containing an account of his life, we know that they boarded a sloop (The Connecticut River is tidal and was navigable from Middletown) for Long Island Sound. The way then lay up the Hudson River to Schenectady, New York. A smaller craft would take them from Schenectady up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwix (now Rome, New York). Then a portage to Wood Creek which would carry them toward Oneida Lake which was reached by another portage. Then via the Oswego River to Oswego on the shore of Lake Ontario. This route has been historically described as requiring a haul of boats by land of approximately thirty miles. While this territory was still in British hands, it left the whole shore of Lake Ontario to be traversed in an open sailing vessel. After finding a boat and making arrangements for the last stage of this Odyssey, it is easy to picture Ezekiel with his family on the beach, leading them in prayer and asking the Lord for clear skies and a fair breeze. But not too much of the latter!

Compared to the relative civilization of New England, this new land was a veritable wilderness. At that time Buffalo, New York, was a small collection of huts and York (Toronto) a recently established but tiny military post. In the whole of Upper Canada, even with the influx of Loyalists and settlers, there were not fifty thousand people counting the military. Newark, Queenston and Stamford were small clearings in a dense forest with much low lying swamp land between and connected only by military roads or Indian trails. There was much to cope with and but few amenities of life available. Not the least terrifying must have been the dread of sickness for there were few physicians and their services of doubtful value. In the face of cholera, tuberculosis and malaria, people were completely helpless. And malaria was endemic to the whole of the Niagara Peninsula. It masqueraded under many names — Ague, Swamp Fever, Lake Fever and River sickness.

Ezekiel soon found that being an American lawyer gave him no standing under the regulations which the British barristers had succeeded in having established. Neither legal erudition nor a degree from Yale could prevail against the Tory prejudice. So unable to practise as he had doubtless planned, he turned to school teaching for which there was a great demand and but few applicants with any qualifications at all let alone a University degree. But as has been customary for many years, that field was not as remunerative as its importance warrants so in his spare time Ezekiel took up surveying for which there was an even greater demand in connection with the land grants and the rapid growth of pioneer communities.

Within two years of his arrival, Ezekiel had applied for and received

land grants in Walpole and Wainfleet, totalling six hundred acres. During the next decade he acquired very much more but apparently by outright purchase and it was these holding upon which he built what must have been a substantial fortune for those days.

By this time he had left Newark, moved to Queenston for a short period and then settled in Stamford. Here, as the man best qualified for the work by virtue of his legal training and by his having held a similar post at Middletown, Connecticut, he became Stamford's first Town Clerk.

In the **Papers and Records of the Ontario Historical Society** (Vol. XXV) it is recorded that the Freeholders of Stamford held a meeting in 1798 and adopted a resolution that spoke of his qualifications for the work and recommended in a prayer to the Lieutenant-Governor that he be confirmed in the appointment. Evidently Ezekiel liked the work and the Freeholders liked Ezekiel for there were no more prayers to the Lieutenant-Governor until twenty two years later when Ezekiel resigned the post!

In the appended notes in which this information appears is this description of Ezekiel:

> "Ezekiel Woodruff was a Loyalist from Connecticut. He settled in Stamford Township and followed the occupation of school teacher, conveyancer and Town Clerk, holding the latter office for twenty two years. He died on Jan. 7th, 1837, aged 73, and is buried in the Methodist Church Burying Ground at St. Davids. Ezekiel was enrolled in Grant's Company of the 2nd Lincoln Militia in 1812.

Shortly after coming to Niagara in 1795, Ezekiel continued with his Masonic activities. Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada preserves the records of St. John's Lodge of Friendship, No. 2, at Niagara, U.C. for the years 1795-1822 and the Roll of Officers show Ezekiel as Secretary in the year 1799.

Ezekiel and Sarah had five sons and two daughters. Ezekiel himself at 49, and three of his sons were destined to take up arms against the land of their birth to secure and defend their new homes against the hostile depredations of the bulging Colossus to the South. Two of the sons became officers in the Lincoln Militia and one in the British 19th Dragoons and all won their promotions for services in the field. The other two boys, Samuel and John were too young to take their part in the bitter hostilitities which raged along the border.

As mentioned earlier, Sarah was Ezekiel's boyhood sweetheart and at her death there was found among her treasured effects a quaint, old-

fashioned acrostic love poem dedicated to her by Ezekiel and preserved for us by Edward Haynes Woodruff in his diary. Nearly two centuries have rolled by but from out that fast dimming past, comes clear and strong the romantic voice of young Ezekiel as he courted his beloved:

"Sweet as the strains the bright
plumed songsters sing
Awakening Nature and saluting Spring
Like the fair flowers that gild the
smiling field
Lavish their beauties and their
fragrance yield
Your charms and converse with such
splendor shine
Herein crowns your Face and beams
a Power Divine
Alluring pleasures in your bosom rise
Love darts his arrows from your
lowering eyes
Lures ev'ry youth and swells
mild glowering Sighs"

Middletown, April 28, 1778

Two of Ezekiel's sons, Richard and William, became leading merchants. Both were men of liberal opinions and took a prominent part in public affairs, contributing their full share to the struggle for responsible government. Both married sisters of a pioneer Loyalist family, the Clements. (See Appendix, Item No. 7 for the Clement family history).

CHAPTER II

EZEKIEL'S SEVEN CHILDREN

EZEKIEL WOODRUFF

b. July 29, 1763
d. Jan. 7, 1837
m. June 30, 1782
Sarah (Lord) Hall
b. May 23, 1765
d. Nov. 26, 1835*
Both are buried in St. Davids.

*—You will have noted there is a discrepancy concerning Sarah's birthdate. Dexter's "Yale Biographies" says May 23, 1761 but gives her age at death on Nov. 26, 1836 as 71½ years, an obvious error. But it does refer to her as the 6th child of Capt. Giles and Anna (Lord) Hall and according to Edwin Stearn's "Middletown, Connecticut Families" she was the sixth child, born on May 23, 1761.

If she was two years older than Ezekiel she may have, woman-like, decided to rectify that condition by pretending she was two years younger, born in 1765, the date shown on her tombstone. Ezekiel lived a bit longer but he may have decided to go along with this little family secret. What lends this credence is Ezekiel's love poem . . . "Alluring pleasures in your bosom rise." The exigencies confronting an amateur and enamored poet must be many but that line does seem a little more appropriate when addressed to a maiden approaching her seventeenth birthday than it does to one almost but not quite thirteen.

Their Seven Children

1. **Sarah Woodruff**, 1st child of Ezekiel.
b. 1783
d. 1864
Sarah married first in 1803, James Maitland and 2nd, Judge Samuel De Veaux (See Appendix, No. 10) founder of De Veaux College at Niagara Falls, N.Y., which institution is still functioning.

2 **Richard Woodruff**, (The Honorable) 2nd child of Ezekiel.
b. Apr. 10, 1784
d. June 1, 1872

Richard married Ann Clement (b. 1788) and served all during the War of 1812-1814. Richard is buried in St. Davids.

Richard was a Sergeant in the Niagara Light Dragoons and fought under General Brock in the capture of Detroit. He was later an officer (Ensign) in the 1st Battalion of the Lincoln Militia and was at the Battle of Chrysler's Farm. Many years later he was awarded a medal with bar "Detroit" for his services. The medal has been lost but it is mentioned in military records for the time.

Richard began his training as a merchant in James Secord's store at Queenston. This James Secord was probably Laura (Ingersoll) Secord's husband but in that family James and David were favorite names so it is difficult to be sure. One of the Davids became Major David after whom St. Davids was named. (See In Retrospect — St. Davids).

When the War was over, Richard formed a general partnership with his younger brother William. They were very successful as merchants and among other ventures they built and operated the first steam powered grist mill in Upper Canada. This mill was across the main road from "Woodbourne" and has since been torn down but as a boy I remember it well. It was a large, four-storey stone building and my cousin Wilfred and I spent many happy hours exploring it and operating the rope geared elevator which carried the processed grain from floor to floor. An old indenture drawn by Ezekiel and dated May 2nd, 1824 shows that the partners acquired the site for their first water power mill from David Secord who evidently was much in favor of the project for he leased them the mill pond and stream for nine hundred and ninety nine years, for an annual rent of twenty five shillings. This document bears the signatures of David Secord, Richard and William and two witnesses, Benjamin Middaugh and Christian T. Warner. Another document covers the outright purchase of a little over an acre of land for the mill site for which George Shaw was paid the sum of £66. There was another old water powered mill in St. Davids operated by Richard's son, James Counter Woodruff, which still stands almost intact but is now serving as an inn.

Richard built the fine old Georgian brick house now occupied by Paul Woodruff whose son, Richard, is the fifth generation Woodruff to live there. This is the house described in the "Picture Gallery of Canadian History" by C. W. Jefferys. (See In Retrospect—St. Davids).

Richard's son-in-law, Samuel Zimmerman, founded the Zimmerman Bank (See Appendix, Item No. 8) in 1855 and Richard was one of the incorporators together with his nephew, Joseph A. Woodruff. It was the custom of those days to call successful business men "Kings". Major

David Secord was known throughout the community as King David and Richard as King Dick.

Richard was a man of liberal thought, unalterably opposed to the arbitrary and arrogant machinations of that cruel and venal group of constitutional bandits, the Family Compact, who worked hand in glove with an avaricious established Church to mis-govern the country. He was elected to the Assembly of Upper Canada and served as the Lincoln County representative in the Thirteenth Parliament. This was during the period of the Rebellion of 1837-1838 and Richard worked and voted consistently for the reform measures which had been so long denied the people. A letter from Richard to William Hamilton Merritt, censuring the conduct of certain members of the Legislature is reproduced in the Biography of the latter by his son, J. P. Merritt. The Thirteenth Parliament was a notable and notorious one under first Sir Francis Bond Head and later Sir George Salter for it legislated the union of Upper and Lower Canada and sentenced, among others, for their part in the Rebellion, two men, Lount and Matthews. Over 10,000 signatures were gathered petitioning the authorities for their reprieve without avail. The Merritt biography relates that one of these was carried to Parliament by the Hon. W. H. Merritt, the man who conceived the Welland Canal, signed by himself, Richard Woodruff and six other Members or Justices of the Peace.

Richard received a land grant of 200 acres for his services during the war and was able to amass a considerable fortune for that era. Wealth in those days resulted largely from the accumulation of land. Many of the generous grants were eventually forfeited and then re-offered for sale by the Crown. Richard was apparently on the lookout for these bargains. The Journals of the Legislative Assembly for the year 1828 alone record him as the buyer of 450 acres in the London District and another 350 acres in Thorold Township, at prices ranging from $ .65 to $4.00 per acre.

Richard was one of the incorporators of the Zimmerman Bank founded by his son-in-law Samuel Zimmerman and a Director of the Niagara Suspension Bridge Bank. One of the bank notes of the latter institution is in my possession. It is dated 1840 and bears his signature and that of William Hamilton of the prominent Hamilton family (after whom the City of Hamilton was named) which had its beginning in Queenston. Up to this time the growing commerce of the region had been distinctly hampered by the lack of banking facilities, and particularly of those which were free of political control. Evidently Richard was aware of the need and took a prominent part in the organization of these pioneer financial institutions. A notice of election of local Directors to the Board of the Bank of Upper Canada, dated at Niagara, on the 20th of June, 1835

includes Richard along with nine of his neighbors and relatives—Lewis Clement, R. W. Crysler, William H. Merritt, Alexander Hamilton and others.

It is interesting to note that two of Richard and Anne Clement's grandsons again found their brides in the Clement family, Henry Augustus Woodruff marrying Teresa Clement and James Richard Woodruff marrying Elizabeth Jessie Clement.

A copy of Richard's will from the Surrogate Court of Lincoln County, C. Badeau Secord, Registrar, disposed among his heirs several lots, two large farms and more than $70,000.00 in mortgages, stocks and bonds.

3. **Maria Woodruff,** 3rd child of Ezekiel
   b. 1786
   d. 1805
   m. Samuel De Veaux. Maria died shortly thereafter, probably in childbirth and Samuel (later Judge Samuel De Veaux) married his wife's elder sister, Sarah Woodruff.

4. **Henry Augustus Woodruff,** 4th child of Ezekiel.
   b. July 6, 1790.
   d. Sept. 30, 1864
   m. Feb. 29, 1811 to Olive Edwards

5. **William Woodruff** (The Honorable), 5th child of Ezekiel
   b. Oct. 1, 1793
   d. June 27, 1860
   m. Margaret Clement
      b. Mar. 29, 1794
      d. Dec. 2, 1882

William's career parallelled that of his elder brother in many respects and evidently approving of Richard's judgment he even chose for his bride a sister from the same household.

My great grandfather William was two years old when his parents made the journey over the Mohawk Trail to Upper Canada. My great grandmother Margaret outlived him by twenty years. Both are buried in Victoria Lawn Cemetery, St. Catharines.

William served throughout the War of 1812-1814, having enlisted at the beginning as a private in Crook's Company. At the Battle of Queenston Heights he was under Capt. McClellan who met his death in that engagement. William was promoted to Ensign in the 1st Regiment of the Lincoln Militia then under the Colonelcy of the Honorable William Claus,

on November 5th, 1815. On August 13, 1824 William was promoted to Lieutenant and while that certificate has been lost, the one commissioning him as Ensign has been preserved by William Alfred Woodruff of Toronto and is reproduced in the Appendix, Item No. 13.

William's description of the Battle of Queenston Heights is contained in a letter to David Thorburn of Queenston. (See "In Retrospect"—"The War of 1812-1814")

William's editorial obituary in the "St. Catharines Journal" of June 29, 1860, contains some further information concerning the disastrous battle that followed the American landing at Niagara on May 27th, 1813 when the Lincoln Militia was practically destroyed by forces superior in both numbers and guns.

It relates how Capt. McClellan fell against William, exclaiming: "I have got my fatal shot", and how the Army was ordered to retreat but William and a fifteen-year-old youth named Matthews remained to fire at the American heads as they appeared over the bank. They had just left a stump behind which they were sheltering when it was struck by a cannon ball.

Another who fell wounded in this engagement was William's Lieutenant, George Adams, my cousin Wilfred's great-great grandfather. (See Appendix, Item No. 21 for a brief account of the Loyalist Adams family and for George Adam's letter to his eldest son, written on the eve of this battle and dictated by his apprehension and foreboding of its direful consequence.

Like Richard, his services were rewarded with a 200 acre Land Grant from the Prince Regent. After the War he was Richard's business partner and became one of the leading merchants of the district, taking a prominent part in public affairs. William, of course, belonged to the Reform party and he was elected a member of the Assembly of Upper Canada, serving in the 10th Parliament under Sir John Colborne as the representative for the 1st and 2nd Ridings of Lincoln County. He served for two sessions in 1829 and 1830.

We are sometimes prone to think of our modern codes of law and ethics as having been with us for a long time. So it is enlightening to find that two of the first Bills introduced in the 10th Parliament and supported by William were:

"A Bill to repeal an act authorizing the whipping of females in this Province."

and

"A Bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debts."

(This was otherwise referred to as the Indulgent Creditors Act.")

William served as Chairman of many of the Select Committees and he introduced the petition of the village of St. Catharines when that place sought incorporation as a Town. In connection with his work on the Select Committee appointed to report on the management and expenditures of the Welland and Burlington Canals, William was asked by the House for an expression of his views and the quotation which follows is indicative of his keen prescience, the more so since many regarded these ventures as visionary and of dubious merit:

"My opinion is that it will ultimately succeed if means can be found to carry it on. The works stand very well, much better than I had expected. I think it will not materially benefit the Niagara District except in respect to water power for machinery. It will injure the Frontier as much as it will benefit the line of the canal but I believe it will prove of material advantage to the upper parts of the Province, perhaps more so than is now anticipated. I think, however, its advantages would have been much greater to the country in general had it been located in the interior."

During this period William was appointed by the Government as one of the Directors of the Welland Canal which was destined to so radically affect the economic importance of the older trading communities along the Niagara River. As they declined, St. Catharines grew so some of the merchants acquired land or businesses there including several of the Woodruffs.

William was a staunch supporter of the Church and in the Museum in connection with the restored Fort George at Niagara there is displayed a lovely pianoforte from his home. But he did not hold with some of the narrow clericalism then prevailing as is shown by an incident related in "History of the Crysler Family" and concerning John Crysler who incidentally also married into one of the Clement families, which is quoted as follows:

"In his youthful days John was fond of music. He played the violin and banjo. When living in St. Catharines he belonged to a private Minstrel Club got up by the young men of the town who spent their winter evenings in practice and entertaining in the town and vicinity. A tea meeting was being held at the Methodist Church, St. Davids, and the club was invited out to entertain. After giving the first selection the Minister ruled that style of entertainment out of place and objected to any further selections being given in the Church. Mr. William Woodruff, the leading merchant at St. Davids, thought the Minister's ruling was harsh and invited the boys

over to his home where the remainder of the evening was spent with pleasure both to host and guests."

In William's time the people were forced to take politics very seriously because of its impact on their daily lives. Because the Woodruffs and other men of liberal thought who represented the Niagara District in the Assembly opposed the tyranny of the Family Compact government, St. Davids earned the nick-name, "Rebel Hole." The Woodruffs knew and sympathized with the aims of Mackenzie and Gourlay but they never countenanced rebellion or sedition. The attempt of the authorities to institute a reign of terror to subdue the opposition of Reform Members is illustrated by incidents concerning William in the "Story of Laura Secord" and in a "Memoir of Colonel James Kerby."

From: **"The Story of Laura Secord", Chap. XI.**

"That portion of the Niagara District which was represented in the Assembly of Upper Canada had sent men of liberal opinions. Major David Secord at the time of the rebellion was an aged man. (It was customary at that time to call successful business men "kings". Major Secord was called "King David", and Mr. Richard Woodruff, "King Dick". The preceding pages have shown the sacrifices made by himself and relatives, the loyal services they gave and were willing to give as subjects of the English Government. The arbitrary measures of the Family Compact previous to 1837 met his disapprobation, and he took the only legitimate way of condemnation, by voting as a member of Parliament for reforms."

"Mr. William Woodruff was also a Reform member, and voted as he believed for the best interests of Canada. He had been in the Battle of Queenston Heights, and served as a volunteer throughout the war of 1812."

"As the regulars and volunteers passed and re-passed on their way to and from Chippewa, many threats were made, and the hope expressed that the place (St. Davids) would be destroyed. In the Spring of the year 1838 Mr. William Woodruff's father died at Niagara Falls, New York, and was buried in St. Davids. His son-in-law, Judge De Veaux, at whose home he died, was at the funeral. He was a small man, and how or when the story originated that he was MacKenzie in disguise was never known. But so it was. A detachment from Queenston was sent to St. Davids. Mr. Woodruff's servants were first interrogated, and he was then taken from his bed to Queenston for examination. Fortunately for himself, he was able to prove that he was not harboring a rebel."

"Another incident of that period may be given. A young man, on the 4th of July, rode on horseback through the village, dressed in a pink cambric jacket, and carrying a lance with pennon, in imitation of the Lancers which were stationed in Queenston. It was evident that it was

the foolish prank of a young man who had taken too much of Canada's curse. He rode up and down the street more than once. It enraged an old pensioner who went to Queenston and informed the officers stationed there that the people of St. Davids were celebrating the 4th of July. The officer took some men and marched to the place. His men were halted in front of the Methodist Church, and scouts sent forward to reconnoitre, and see what was going on. Mr. William Woodruff had heard of their approach. When the scouts arrived every house was dark, and the streets quiet, but from behind the curtains many anxious hearts were watching for the outcome. Mr. Woodruff took the officers to his house and treated them, and they returned to Queenston satisfied that their march had been unnecessary."

From: **"A Memoir of Colonel James Kerby".**

The Honorable James was in command of the Queen's Niagara Fencibles who policed the Niagara Frontier. He appears from his letters to have been an irascible and highly suspicious character. On one occasion he really got the "wind up" and through his zealous efforts on behalf of the Government managed to strike a happy medium between "getting there fustest with the mostest" and some of his modern counterparts who arrived with too little, too late. The Lieutenant Governor and Colonel Halkett had just reviewed the troops and were returning to Toronto with Kerby's assurances that all was quiet along the Niagara when he sent the following dispatch:

"Last evening shortly after your departure from the Falls, I received further information that a person or persons of Very Suspicious character were said to have crossed over from Lewiston or thereabouts and were concealed at William Woodruff's at St. Davids. Lieut.-Col. Creighton immediately proceeded there with about Sixty Men and I followed him shortly after, at the same time giving information to Capt. Palmer at Queenston of our advance toward St. Davids."

"We surrounded the house at St. Davids but made no discovery further than to have been told by the said Woodruff that he had received one Thomas Darling in his house the night before, in company with another person from Lewiston unknown to him. And the latter person had left St. Davids about two hours before we arrived there & every circumstance attending this information gave us strong reasons to suspect that something was brewing of a Very Suspicious kind; still we have not up to this moment been able to make any discovery. We have all resumed our stations and All is perfectly quiet."

Colonel Kerby believed in letting the boss know that he was on the job. One of his cohorts of the same stripe, Major Anstruther at Queenston,

appears to have had the fidgets also. He was convinced that he could employ part of the Fort York arsenal to better advantage if they would only ship it to him quick so he fired a broadside at the Quarter Master General's Department in Toronto, as follows:

"I have the honor to inform you that 4 companies of the 1st Frontier Light Infantry were all last night scouring Short Hills, (Fonthill) St. Davids and other places in consequence of information rec'd late yesterday even'g. I have only time to say that they (the rebels) are reported to have 4 small pieces of ordnance and one 9 pounder. May I suggest you be so good as to send us the two sixes employed on Younge St.

P.S. If the two sixes are to be sent, could they be sent tonight."

The insufferable intolerance of the governing clique was exemplified as late as July 30, 1840, when a notable meeting was held on Queenston Heights to discuss ways and means for the rebuilding of the monument erected to honor the gallant General Brock. The previous April it had been destroyed by a gun powder charge planted by an Irish-born settler, Benjamin Lett who had been compelled to flee to the United States for his part in the Rebellion of 1837 and who perpetrated this outrage in revenge.

This was a memorable occasion, attended by military and government officials and over 800 people from all parts of the Province. A public holiday had been declared in York and all stores and offices were closed. William's name was on the list of speakers but he was not permitted to address the meeting. It must have been a bitter pill for William! On that memorable day when Sir Isaac fell mortally wounded, William was there under General Sheaffe whose forces, mostly Lincoln Militia, snatched us the victory. That day he was a private but since 1824 he had carried the sword of a Lieutenant though it proved impotent against the pens wielded by the servile minions comprising the Government's Committee. (For William's eye-witness account of the battle, see the chapter "In Retrospect" — "The War of 1812-1814").

This incident is referred to in "The Story of Laura Secord" but is more fully described in the "Biography of the Hon. W. H. Merritt, M.P." It took place on June 23rd, 1840 and was presided over by Sir Allan MacNab. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit subscriptions to defray the cost of the work. William had furnished the desk upon which the Secretary kept the minutes. It was a fitting one for the occasion since it was the desk used by Governor John Graves Simcoe when he first held Court in Old Niagara. Although he wouldn't allow William to speak, Sir Allan's objections evidently did not extend to the use of William's furniture nor to the accepting of his donation! This historic desk and oil paintings of William and Margaret in oval gold frames, are in the possession of

Percy Carruthers Band of Toronto. Percy married Margaret Julia Woodruff, a daughter of Hamilton Kilally Woodruff of St. Catharines, a son of Samuel DeVeaux Woodruff, William's first child.

As the man best qualified for the post, William was appointed Magistrate at St. Davids and became well known throughout the Peninsula for his fair and just decisions and for the sound advice and counsel which he freely gave to the many people who sought his guidance for their business or personal problems.

In 1856 William's constituents were very dissatisfied with the conduct of their Member in the Legislature. Being well acquainted with William's forthright views, they "requisitioned" him to run again but this time his supporters were unable to overcome the opposition forces and the scoundrels captured the seat. Electioneering techniques were certainly different in those days and this "Requisition" is a quaintly dignified document. (See Appendix, Item No. 12 where it is reproduced).

If you have an opportunity to visit the restored Fort George at Niagara-on-the-Lake, you will find displayed there a very interesting collection of military equipment and authentic pioneer relics of every description, together with an impressive exhibition of historical paintings, prints and documents. Much of this material came from the Servos-Snider estate at Palatine Hill, near Niagara and one thing you will see is a large walnut piano-forte manufactured by James Neilson of New York. This beautifully ornate instrument and the little music stool with its handworked cover, belonged to William. They were acquired by John C. and Margaret Fry Ball, paid for by war debentures of the War of 1812-14 and have been loaned by Mr. Herbert Aikins. Unfortunately there is none of William's china bearing the family arms, which he had made for him by Mintons of England. In fact but few pieces of this have survived as treasured possessions of the family.

Among the framed documents you will discover the Pay List of the Staff and Regimental officers of the First Regiment of the Lincoln Militia at the time when it was commanded by Colonel John D. Servos, Lieut.-Col. John Clark and Major Adam Brown.

Both Richard and William maintained their military connections for many years and both became Captains in the First Lincoln during this period as you will see from the document which list the Captains of that time as follows:

CAPTAINS—1. Courtland Secord
2. Joseph Clement
3. Peter Warner

4. William Woodruff
5. John Clendenning
6. Walter Butler
7. Richard Woodruff

William's sash and sword as well as his certificate of commission in the War of 1812-1814 are still in the family's possession and it is to be hoped that they will eventually be donated to the Museum at Fort George.

6. **John Woodruff,** 6th child of Ezekiel.
   b. 1797; d. 1827; m. Joan . . . from New York State.
   Nothing else is known of John except that his widow married November 20, 1829 William S. Chittenden, a merchant of Youngstown, N.Y.

7. **Samuel Woodruff**, 7th child of Ezekiel.
   b. 1800; d. 1824.
   All we know of Samuel is from the cryptic and somewhat incongruous notation in the diary of Edward Haynes Woodruff . . . "Blown up by gunpowder. No issue. He was a physician."

CHAPTER III

THE UPPER CANADA DESCENDANTS

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

5 **EZEKIEL WOODRUFF,** b. July 29, 1763; d. Jan. 7, 1837; m. June 30, 1782 Sarah Hall (b. May 21, 1765; d. Nov. 26, 1835). Issue: (7).

1 **Sarah Woodruff,** (1st child of Ezekiel) b. 1783; d. 1864; m. Judge Samuel DeVeaux. No issue.

2 **Richard Woodruff,** (2nd child of Ezekiel) b. Apr. 10, 1784; d. June 1, 1872; m. Anne Clement (b. Aug. 9, 1788; d. Mar. 30, 1873). Issue: (8).

1 **Joseph Clement Woodruff** (1st child of Richard and Anne Clement). b. Dec. 9, 1808; d. Nov. 30, 1899; m. Sarah Shaw. Issue: (5)

1 **George Wellington Woodruff,** b. Aug. 31, 1832; d. Feb. 10, 1895; m. Rachel Close. No issue.

2 **Richard Henry Woodruff,** b. Feb. 3, 1834; d. Jan. 29, 1836.

3 **William Walter Woodruff,** b. May 1, 1836; d. Mar. 23, 1907; m. Susan Backinstone; Issue (2):

1 Jessie Woodruff; d. age 12.

2 Gertrude Woodruff, d. age 9.

4 **Theodore Woodruff,** b. Oct. 6, 1840; d. —— ; m. May 23, 1878 a Miss Campbell; No issue.

5 **Sarah DeVeaux Woodruff,** b. Dec. 29, 1844; d. —— ; m. Oct. 19, 1871 William McKay; No issue.

2 **Sarah Margaret Woodruff** (2nd child of Richard and Anne Clement). b. 1811; d. Feb. 9, 1834; m. a man named Swan; No issue.

3 **William Henry Woodruff** (3rd child of Richard and Anne Clement). b. Sept. 3, 1814; d. Aug. 7, 1897; m. in 1841 Mary Secord* (b. Dec. 27, 1818; d. Dec. 21, 1895; Issue: (7)

1 **Margaret Elizabeth Woodruff** (1st child of William Henry); b. Sept. 5, 1842; d —— ; m. Oct. 24, 1865 Josia Packard. Issue: (8)

1 **Elizabeth Packard,** b. 1868; m. in 1901 C. C. Wheeler; Issue: (2)

1 Henry A. Wheeler, b. ——

2 Mary Elizabeth Wheeler, b. ——

2 Mary Secord Packard, b. 1869

3 Ambrose Packard, b. 1870; m. in 1902 Helen Imbrie.

4 Josiah Woodruff Packard, b. 1872; d. 1883.

5 Rhoda Packard, b. 1875

6 Sarah Packard, b. 1881

7 William Packard, b. 1883; d. an infant.

8 Kirke Packard, b. 1886

2 **Henry Augustus Woodruff** (2nd child of William Henry); b. Oct. 6, 1844; d. 1909; m. Teresa Elizabeth Clement (b. May 22, 1849; d. June 2, 1919); Issue: (4)

1 **Robert Henry Woodruff,** b. 1876; m. Florence Goring; Issue (1)

1 Roberta Mildred Woodruff, b. 1915; d. 1956; m. Wilfred Sears; No issue.

1 Robert Lester Sears (adopted)

2 **Mabel Mary Woodruff,** b. 1878; m. Charles Anderson; Issue: (1)

1 Lenore Anderson, b——; m. George Durham; Issue: (1)

1 Lenore Anderson Durham, b. 1932; d. 1956.

3 **William Edwin Woodruff,** b. 1883; d —— ; m. Nellie Pendergast; Issue: (2)

1 Laura Woodruff, b. 1913; m. William Irvin.

2 Edwin Woodruff, b. Nov. 20, 1916.

*—Mary Secord was the daughter of Major David Secord whose brother James Secord married Laura Ingersoll (Secord), Canada's illustrious heroine. (See appendix, Item No. 9, The Secord Family).

4 **Augusta Catherine Woodruff,** b. 1885; d. —— ; m. Chas. Sanders; Issue: (2)

1 Arvid Clement Sanders, b. 1908; d. 1911.

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

2 Dorothy Mae Sanders, b. 1910; m. Chas. Clemens; Issue: (1)
1 Patricia Jean Clemens, b. 1942

3 **Richard Edgar Woodruff** (3rd child of William Henry), b. Mar. 11, 1847; d. ——; m. Aug. 11, 1875 Jane Sammons; Issue: (1)
1 Helena Woodruff, b. 1877

4 **David William Woodruff** (4th child of William Henry). b. 1849; m. Dec. 4, 1875 Josephine Woodruff; Issue: (2)
1 Frederick Woodruff, b. 1877
2 **Archibald Woodruff,** b. 1880; m. 1909 Ida Sanders; Issue: (1)
1 Nova Helena Woodruff, b. ——; d. ——

5 **Anne Helena Woodruff** (5th child of William Henry) b. Dec. 28, 1850.

6 **Marion Caroline Woodruff** (6th child of William Henry), b. May 23, 1854; m. Oct. 9, 1885 James Jones; Issue: (2)
1 **Victor Jones,** b. 1887; m. 1909 Edith Groom; Issue: (1)
1 Naomi Jones, b. 1910
2 Marion Jones, b. Oct. 7, 1890; m. T. H. Ward; No issue.

7 **Ella Victoria Woodruff** (7th child of William Henry) b. Sept. 15, 1857; m. Jan. 1886 Oliver Pew; No issue.

4 **Richard Napoleon Woodruff** (4th child of Richard and Anne Clement), b. 1815; d. 1866; m. 1838 Deborah Field; Issue: (9).

1 George Duffet Woodruff, b. May 24, 1840; d. Nov. 23, 1900; m. Hannah Lowery; No issue.

2 **John Woodruff,** b. Feb. 7, 1841; d. ——

3 **Richard Woodruff,** b. May 1, 1843, d. ——; m. Georgina Rogers; Issue: (2)
1 **Maude Woodruff,** b. 1876; m. Franklin Lowery; Issue: (4)
1 Vera Lowery, b. 1901; d. 1922.
2 Dr. Stanley Lowery, b. 1907; m. Hilda White.
3 Dr. Arthur Lowery, b. 1910; m. Margaret Devlin McDonough; Issue: (2)
1 Philip Lowery, b. 1942.
2 Mark Lowery, b. 1948
4 Katharine Pauline Lowery, b. Sept. 9 1915; m. Robert D. Fraser; Issue: (2)
1 Mary Elizabeth Fraser, b. Oct. 2, 1952
2 Douglas Woodruff Fraser, b. May 29, 1958
2 Ethel Boen Woodruff, b. 1879; m. ——— Thurston.

4 **Maria Woodruff,** b. Nov. 22, 1846; d. 1906; m. Geo. Pelley; Issue: (1)
1 Curtis Pelley, b. 1876.

5 Gilbert Woodruff, b. Jan. 11, 1849.

6 Anne Woodruff b. Feb. 15, 1852; d. Oct. 16, 1874.

7 Sarah Woodruff, b. Mar. 4, 1857; m. Wellington Kennedy.

8 William Woodruff, b. Feb. 2, 1859.

9 **Francis Woodruff,** b. July 2, 1862; d. Mar. 9, 1936; m. Hattie May Lowery (b. Aug. 15, 1869; d. Dec. 6, 1951); Issue: (2).
1 **Paul Vernon Woodruff,** b. June 8, 1903; m. Nov. 21, 1942 Helen Greig Hunter (b. Sept. 12, 1906) Issue: (1).
1 Richard Jackson Woodruff b. Aug. 16, 1945.
2 **Nora DeVeaux Woodruff,** b. Oct. 9, 1911; m. 1932 John Greenhill Walker; Issue: (3)
1 Norris Woodruff Walker, b. Aug. 27, 1933
2 David Franklin Walker, b. Dec. 3, 1934
3 John Greenhill Walker Jr., b. Apr. 11, 1939

5 **John Woodruff** (5th child of Richard and Anne Clement); b. 1819; d. 1856; m. Mary Collard; Issue: (2)

1 **Margaret Woodruff,** b. 1852; m. Bruce Kennedy; Issue: (4)
1 William Kennedy, b. ——
2 Rose Kennedy, b. ——
3 Bertha Kennedy, b. ——
4 Claude Kennedy, b. ——

2 **Richard Woodruff,** b. 1855; d. ——; m. Nancy Cook; Issue: (9)
1 **John Sears Woodruff,** (1st child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1879; m. 1st Carrie Thompson; Issue: (3)
m. 2nd Emily Jackson; Issue: (5)

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1 **Clarence Earl Woodruff,** (by 1st wife Carrie Thompson); b. 1906; m. Mabel Rayment; Issue: (3)
1 Jack Woodruff, b. ——
2 Lillian Woodruff, b. ——
3 Paul Woodruff, b. ——

2 **Richard Edwin Woodruff,** (by 1st wife Carrie Thompson); b. 1907; m. Laura Smith; Issue: (2)
1 **Richard G. Woodruff,** b. 1926; m. Joan Pratt; Issue: (1)
1 Richard Edwin Woodruff, b. 1948
2 **Donald George Woodruff,** b. 1931; m. Anita Anderson; Issue: (2)
1 Wendy Woodruff, b. 1952
2 Laura Woodruff, b. 1953

3 **Bertram Kenneth Woodruff,** (by 1st wife Carrie Thompson); b. 1910; m. Phyllis Betts; Issue: (5)
1 Betty Woodruff, b. 1936
2 Doris Woodruff, b. 1937
3 Robert Woodruff, b. 1938
4 Evelyn Woodruff, b. 1939
5 Edward Woodruff, b. 1941

4 **John Herbert Woodruff,** (by 2nd wife Emily Jackson); b. 1913; m. Pamela Marshall; Issue: (3)
1 David John Woodruff, b. 1942
2 Stephen Philip Woodruff, b. 1948
3 Irene Pamela Woodruff, b. 1949

5 **Milford Reginald Woodruff,** (by 2nd wife Emily Jackson); b. 1920; m. Patricia Price; Issue: (1)
1 Gail Patricia Woodruff, b. ——

6 **Mrytle Ruth Woodruff,** (by 2nd wife Emily Jackson); b. 1920; m. Jack Racey; Issue: (6)
1 Jack Racey, b. 1941
2 Wayne Racey, b. 1943
3 Robert Racey, b. 1946
4 Carol Racey, b. 1948
5 Barry Racey, b. 1950
6 George Racey, b. 1952

7 **Margaret Irene Woodruff,** (by 2nd wife Emily Jackson); b. 1925; m. George Duncan; Issue: (1)
1 Georgina Duncan, b. 1953

8 **William Theodore Woodruff,** (by 2nd wife Emily Jackson); b. 1933; m. Doris Leeman; Issue: (1)
1 William Woodruff, b. 1952

2 **Richard Edwin Woodruff,** (2nd child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1882; m. Ida Bayne; Issue: (4)
1 **Edna Margaret Woodruff,** b. 1909; m. Harold Dickson; Issue: (1)
1 Linda Dickson, b. 1940; m. Allan Factley. Issue: (2)
1 Elizabeth Ann Factley, b. 1957
2 Allan Dickson Factley, b. 1958

2 **Robert Bayne Woodruff,** b. 1911; m. Mary Sloane; Issue: (3)
1 Robert Frank Woodruff, b. 1938
2 Mary Lynn Woodruff, b. 1941
3 Karen Agnes Woodruff, b. 1946.

3 Olive Leona Woodruff, b. 1916; m. Albert Hardwick.

4 **Joseph Clement Woodruff,** b. 1923; m. Barbara Tumilty; Issue: (1)
1 Joseph Richard Woodruff, b. 1951

3 **Maude Woodruff,** (3rd child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1883; m. Martin Fraser

4 **Carrie Woodruff,** (4th child of Richard and Nancy Cook; b. 1885; m. Augustus Thorne; Issue: (7)
1 **William Augustus Thorne,** b. 1910; d. 1944; (Killed in action); m. Laura Jamieson; Issue: (2)

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

1 Sharon Thorne, b. 1938
2 Anne Thorne, b. 1944

2 **Ethel Thorne**, b. 1911; m. R. T. Jackson; Issue: (3)
1 Robert Thomas Jackson, b. 1942
2 James Herbert Jackson, b. 1946
3 Rose Ellen Jackson, b. 1948

3 **Percy Burton Thorne**, b. 1913; m. Muriel Hunter; Issue: (2)
1 Marilyn Thorne, b. 1940
2 Janice Thorne, b. 1946

4 **Herbert Thorne**, b. 1914; m. Minerva Campbell; Issue: (2)
1 Shirley Thorne, b. 1939
2 Herbert Thorne, b. 1951

5 **Anne Victoria Thorne**, b. 1916; m. William Huggins; Issue: (3)
1 William Huggins, b. 1940
2 Betty Huggins, b. 1943
3 Judith Huggins, b. 1946

6 **Nancy Thorne**, b. 1922; m. Jack Terraberry; Issue: (3)
1 Nancy Terraberry, b. 1941
2 Douglas Terraberry, b. 1947
3 Robert Terraberry, b. 1949

7 **Dorothy Thorne**, b. 1922; m. William Hunter; Issue: (5)
1 Dorothy Hunter, b. 1939
2 William Hunter, b. 1941
3 Patricia Hunter, b. 1943
4 Joan Hunter, b. 1948
5 Barbara Rose Hunter, b. 1948

5 **George Woodruff**, (5th child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1887; d. 1910

6 **Joseph Woodruff**, (6th child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1889; d. 1917; m. Catherine O'Conner.

7 **Burton Woodruff**, (7th child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1892; m. 1st Irene Winnerton; Issue: (2)
m. 2nd Ella Raycroft; Issue: (2)

1 **George Woodruff**, (1st child of Burton and Irene Winnerton); b. 1916; d. 1945; m. Rose Mango; Issue: (3)
1 Irene Clair Woodruff, b. 1935; m. W. J. Windsor
2 Frederick George Woodruff, b. 1939
3 Larry Jay Woodruff, b. 1941

2 **Bruce Woodruff**, (2nd child of Burton and Irene Winnerton); b. 1922; m. Irene Douglas

3 June Woodruff, (1st child of Burton and Ella Raycroft); b —

4 Diana Woodruff, (2nd child of Burton and Ella Raycroft); b.—

8 **Nancy Woodruff**, (8th child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1896; m. Roy Whitney; Issue: (1)

1 **Maud Whitney**, b. 1915; m. Arnold Courts; Issue: (3)
1 Ronald Courts, b. 1941
2 Wayne Courts, b. 1943
3 Arlene Courts, b. 1945

9 **Frank Woodruff**, (9th child of Richard and Nancy Cook); b. 1899.

6 **James Counter Woodruff**, (6th child of Richard and Anne Clement); b. Apr. 2, 1826; d. Sept. 29, 1866; m. Elizabeth Thompson; Issue: (9)

1 **Anne Woodruff**, (1st child of James Counter); b. Dec. 28, 1850; d. Aug. 28, 1933; m. 1st Stephen Bell; Issue: (2); m. 2nd Robert Robinson; Issue: (2)

1 William Bell, b. ——
2 **Leila Bell**, b. ———; m. L. H. Pike; Issue: (1)
1 Robert Pike, b. ——
3 Alice Robinson, b. 1891
4 Robert Robinson, b. 1894

2 **Josephine Woodruff**, (2nd child of James Counter); b. 1851; d. 1921; m. Dec. 4, 1875 David William Woodruff (b.

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1849; d. 1904); Issue: (2)
1 Frederick Woodruff, b. 1877
2 **Archibald Woodruff**, b. 1880; m. 1909 Ida Sanders; Issue: (1)
1 Nova Helena Woodruff, b. ——
3 **Mary Alice Woodruff**, (3rd child of James Counter); b. 1852; d. ——; m. 1876 Peter Hume; Issue: (2)
1 Mamie Hume, d. an infant
2 **Jessie Hume**, b. ——; m. Dr. Charles Duggan; Issue: (4)
1 **Hume Duggan**, b. 1913; m. Muriel Bowles; Issue: (3)
1 Nancy Duggan, b. 1941
2 Frederick Duggan, b. 1943; d. 1952
3 Marilyn Duggan, b. 1946
2 **Dr. Richard Duggan**, b. 1917; m. Edith Elizabeth Sinclair; Issue: (3)
1 Richard Charles Duggan, b. 1943
2 George Edward Duggan, b. 1947
3 Barbara Joy Duggan, b. Jan. 25, 1954
3 Frederick Duggan, b. 1920; d. 1943 (Killed in action)
4 David Duggan, b. 1923; d. 1938
4 **Albert James Woodruff**, (4th child of James Counter); b. 1854; (died in Gold Rush).
5 **Ursen Harvey Woodruff**, (5th child of James Counter); b. 1856; m. Edith Wadsworth; Issue: (2)
1 Ernest Woodruff, b. 1885; d. 1956
2 Edith Woodruff, b. 1889
6 Julia Woodruff, (6th child of James Counter); b. 1860; d. an infant.
7 Emma A. Woodruff, (7th child of James Counter); b. 1862; d. 1947.
8 Caroline Woodruff, (8th child of James Counter); b. 1865; d. 1949.
9 **James Richard Woodruff**, (9th child of James Counter); b. Jan. 18, 1867; d. Aug. 25, 1922; m. Elizabeth Jessie Clement (b. Apr. 29, 1865); Issue: (11)
1 **George Albert Woodruff**, b. 1890; d. Jan. 13, 1959; m. Charlotte M. Masters; Issue: (2)
1 James Frederick Woodruff, b. Sept. 14, 1933
2 George Keith Woodruff, b. May 18, 1937; d. May 29, 1937
2 **James Cecil Woodruff**, b. Mar. 4, 1893; d. Jan. 31, 1954; m. Marian Wiletta Burch; Issue: (1)
1 **Harriet Elizabeth Woodruff**, b. 1921; m. Russel Cushman; Issue: (1)
1 Douglas Albert Cushman, b. ——
3 **Jessie Elizabeth Woodruff**, b. May 3, 1894; m. Walter Samuel Field; Issue: (1)
1 **Walter Woodruff Field**, b. July 28, 1927; m. Joan Ings; Issue: (2)
1 Nancy Field, b. Aug. 4, 1955
2 Larry Field, b. Dec. 17, 1956
4 **Ursen Clement Woodruff**, b. 1897; m. Helen E. Cusik; Issue: (5)
1 Helen Elizabeth Woodruff, b. 1936; d. 1936
2 Harvey Ursen Woodruff, b. 1937
3 Hazel Rossela Woodruff, b. 1940
4 Richard Peter Woodruff, b. 1944
5 Dennis Ronald Woodruff, b. 1946
5 **Hudson Usher Woodruff**, b. Jan. 9, 1900; m. Mary Campbell Crosbie; Issue: (1)
1 Marion Campbell Woodruff; b. Nov. 12, 1935; d. July 15, 1940
6 Edith Robinson Woodruff, b. Sept. 23, 1901; m. John Bruce Gordon
7 Peter Lester Hume Woodruff, b. Feb. 21, 1904.
8 **Herbert Nelson Woodruff**, b. Apr. 9, 1905; m. L. Wilhelmine Smith; Issue: (1)
1 Donald Edward Woodruff, b. Apr. 12, 1946
9 Richard Woodruff, b. Feb. 11, 1908; d. Feb. 26, 1908.

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10 **John Thompson Woodruff**, b. Nov. 19, 1909; m. Frieda Sturn; Issue: (4)
1 Howard Edward Woodruff, b. Oct. 1, 1936; d. Sept. 1944.
2 Lavelle Roslyn Woodruff, b. ——
3 Wright Thompson Woodruff, b. ——
4 Virginia Lois Woodruff, b. ——
11 **Margaret Elizabeth Woodruff**, b. Dec. 14, 1910; m. Albert Lyle Rusk; Issue: (1)
1 Charles Richard Rusk, b. Sept. 5, 1946

7 **Margaret Anne Woodruff**, (7th child of Richard and Anne Clement); b. 1828; d. Apr. 24, 1851; m. Samuel Zimmerman; Issue: (2)
1 John Zimmerman, b. ——
2 Richard Zimmerman, b. ——

8 **Samuel Woodruff**, (8th child of Richard and Anne Clement); b. 1829; d. 1889; m. Jane Cooper; Issue: (6)
1 Richard M. Woodruff, b. 1848
2 James Woodruff, b. 1849; d. 1852
3 John Woodruff, b. 1849; d. 1849
4 Sylvester Woodruff, b. 1856
5 Margaret L. Woodruff, b. 1857
6 Emma R. Woodruff, b. 1858; m. Charles F. Peters

3 **Maria Woodruff**, (3rd child of Ezekiel); b. 1786; d. 1805; m. Samuel DeVeaux; No issue.

4 **Henry Augustus Woodruff**, (4th child of Ezekiel); b. July 6, 1790; d. Sept. 30, 1864; m. Feb. 29, 1811 Olive Edwards; Issue: (11)
1 Wellington Woodruff, b. 1816; d. 1823
2 Richard Hall Woodruff, b. 1818; d. 1854; m. Rhoda Smith
3 Maria DeVeaux Woodruff, b. Sept. 4, 1821; d. ——; m. Sept. 15, 1848, D. C. Haynes; he died in 1875.
4 **William Edward Woodruff**; b. Dec. 10, 1824; d. Feb. 12, 1899; m. Caroline (Ely) Hubbard (b. 1836; d. Mar. 7, 1871); Issue: (1)
1 Edward Haynes Woodruff, b. Apr. 4, 1859; d. Jan. 16, 1933.
5 John Woodruff, b. 1827; d. 1827
6 **Henry Augustus Woodruff Jr.**, b. Jan. 17, 1828; d. May 26, 1864; m. Virginia Rachel Peters (b. Jan. 1, 1839; d. May 18, 1912) He was a surgeon in the United States Army and was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness, May 26, 1864.
7 Olive Mary Woodruff, b. 1831; d. 1831.

5 **William Woodruff**, (5th child of Ezekiel), b. Oct. 1, 1793; d. June 27, 1860; m. Margaret Clements (b. Mar. 29, 1794; d. Dec. 2, 1882); Issue: (7)

1 **Samuel DeVeaux Woodruff***, (1st child of William and Margaret Clement) b. Mar. 28, 1819; d. Oct. 28, 1904; m. Jane Caroline Sanderson (b. Aug. 19, 1827; d. Feb. 15, 1912); Issue: (4)
1 **Alfred Sanderson Woodruff**, 1st child of Samuel DeVeaux); b. Dec. 30, 1855; d. Mar. 20, 1926; m. Georgina Ross; Issue (3)
1 **Gladys Caroline Woodruff**, (1st child of Alfred Sanderson); b. Apr. 21 1891; m. 1st Jan. 28, 1914 D'Arcy Fowles Hilton; Issue: (1); m. 2nd Aug. 4, 1925, Dr. William James Chapman; Issue: (2)
1 William DeVeaux Woodruff Hilton, b. May 17, 1916; d. overseas; m. Aug. 3, 1940 Errol Leone Groch; No issue
2 **William James Lloyd Chapman**, b. Sept. 2, 1926; m. June 14, 1952 Valerie Ann Rose Ashwell (b. Mar. 15, 1928); Issue: (1)
1 Anne Caroline Esine Chapman, b. ——
3 **Nancy Georgina Elizabeth Chapman**, b. Mar. 15, 1928; m. June 28, 1951 Frederick Alan Greenwood (b. Dec. 27, 1927); Issue: (3)
1 Susan Caroline Stephanie Greenwood, b. Apr. 10, 1953

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

2 Alan William Chapman Greenwood, b. Feb. 13, 1955.
3 Sarah Ellis Ross Greenwood, b. May 9, 1956.

2 Samuel DeVeaux Woodruff (2nd child of Alfred Sanderson); b. Nov. 3, 1893; d. 1918 (Killed in action)

3 **William Alfred Woodruff**, (3rd child of Alfred Sanderson); b. Aug. 19, 1899; m. Feb. 6, 1924 Margaret MacBeth; Issue: (2)

1 **Margaret Jane Ashton Woodruff**, b. Feb. 13, 1925; m. Sept. 19, 1953 James Caldwell Corkery; Issue: (1)
1 Kirke Woodruff Corkery; b. June 15, 1954

2 **Samuel DeVeaux Woodruff**, b. Nov. 13, 1929; m. June 5, 1954 Nancy Aileen Blundell; Issue: (2)
1 Samuel DeVeaux Woodruff, b. Mar. 18, 1955
2 Catherine Elizabeth Woodruff, b. July 11, 1958

2 **Hamilton Killaly Woodruff**, (2nd child of Samuel DeVeaux); b. Dec. 22, 1857; d. Nov. 3, 1932; m. Nov. 21, 1894 Julia Cleveland; Issue: (1)

1 Margaret Julia Woodruff, b. Apr. 28, 1896; m. Nov. 25, 1919 Percy Carruthers Band; Issue: (3)

1 **Charles Woodruff Band**, b. Nov. 9, 1921; m. Dec. 28, 1946 Elizabeth Martin; Issue: (2)
1 Martin Woodruff Band, b. Oct. 17, 1949
2 Jennifer Band, b. Aug. 19, 1951

2 **Margaret Elizabeth Band**, b. June 6, 1924; m. May 1, 1948 Eric Walter Taylor; Issue: (3)
1 Christopher Eric Taylor, b. Feb. 25, 1951
2 Margaret Julia Taylor, b. May 4, 1954
3 Eric Burk Taylor, b. Jan. 14, 1958

3 Robert DeVeaux Woodruff Band, b. Sept. 11, 1927

3 **Welland DeVeaux Woodruff**, (3rd child of Samuel DeVeaux); b.Apr. 30, 1861; d. Dec. 13, 1920; m. 1st Isobel Price (b. Sept. 7, 1862; d. Jan. 16, 1902); No issue; m. 2nd June 23, 1915 Anne Leslie Wallis (b. Oct. 6, 1874; d. Feb. 9, 1934); Issue: (1)

1 **Welland DeVeaux Woodruff (2nd)**, b. July 4, 1917; m. Sept. 10, 1941 Helen Clair Alice Murdoch (b. Sept. 26, 1918); Issue: (3)
1 Welland DeVeaux Woodruff (3rd), b. Nov. 3, 1942.
2 Anne Murdoch Woodruff, b. Aug. 28, 1946
3 James Murdoch Woodruff, b. Mar. 26, 1949

*—He was educated in Lewiston, N.Y., and the Grantham Academy in St. Catharines Ontario. He studied engineering and began his profession in Lockport, N.Y. but shortly moved to St. Catharines and entered the employment of the Government as Assistant Engineer of the Welland Canal. Later he became Superintendent, which post he held for twenty-eight years.

4 Thomas Adams Woodruff, (4th child of Samuel DeVeaux); b. Jan. 4, 1865; m. Feb. 7, 1914 Mrs. Mabel Ogden.

2 **Joseph Augustine Woodruff*** (2nd child of William and Margaret Clement) b. 1820; d. 1886; m. Julia Claus; Issue: (2)

1 **Amy Augusta Woodruff**, b. 1851; m. Henry Miller; Issue: (4)
1 Helen Ethel Miller, b. 1877; d. 1879
2 Amy Constance Miller, b. 1880; d. 1949
3 Natalie Claus Miller, b. 1881; d. 1943
4 Henry Edward Miller, b. 1883; d. 1884

2 **Margaret Julia Woodruff**, b. 1857; m. William Marston; Issue: (2)
1 William W. Marston, b. 1881
2 Pierce Marston, b. 1883; m. 1st Marjorie ———; Issue: (1); m. 2nd Joan ———: No issue
1 William Marston, b. ———

3 **Richard Woodruff****. (3rd child of William and Margaret Clement); b. 1822; d. 1887; m. Cornelia McCrumb; Issue: (6)

1 Arthur McCrumb Woodruff, b. 1855; d. 1857

2 **Joseph Augustus Woodruff**, b. 1856; d. 1901; m. Elizabeth Kelly; Issue: (4)

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

1 James Richard Woodruff, b. 1880
2 **George Albert Woodruff,** b. 1883; m. Ruth Wigg; Issue: (2)
1 Joseph Woodruff, b. ———
2 Eva Woodruff, b. ———
3 Asheal Howard Woodruff, b. 1885
4 **Olive Henry Woodruff,** b. 1891; m. Charles Glass; Issue: (2)
1 Helen Glass, b. ———; m. William Kirby
2 Frederick Donald Glass; b. ———; m. Arlene Burns
3 **Marietta Woodruff,** b. 1858; d. 1905; m. Frederick Self; Issue: (1)
1 Winifred Self, b. ———
4 Ida Woodruff, b. 1860; d. 1939
5 Albert Woodruff, b. 1861
6 **Helen Atkinson Woodruff,** b. 1866; d. 1924; m. George A. Hamilton; Issue: (1)
1 Dorothy Woodruff Hamilton, b. ———; m. 1st John Claus; m. 2nd Hayden Holden

4 Julia A. Woodruff, (4th child of William and Margaret Clement); b. Apr. 3, 1825; d. July 12, 1870.
5 **Helena Woodruff,** (5th child of William and Margaret Clement); b. 1828; d. May 21, 1892; m. Joseph Patterson Boomer (b. 1825; d. Dec. 9, 1872); Issue: (1)
1 William Woodruff Boomer, b. ———
6 Dr. William Woodruff, (6th child of William and Margaret Clement); b. Aug. 15, 1830; d. Aug. 11, 1908.
7 **Henry Counter Woodruff,** (7th child of William and Margaret Clement); b. Jan. 12, 1833; d. Aug. 16, 1916; m. Mar. 12, 1865 Emma Eloise Osgood (b. Sept. 22, 1835; d. Oct. 31, 1928) Issue: (4)
1 Henry Howard Woodruff, b. Apr. 7, 1866; d. Mar. 14, 1868
2 **William Emmason Woodruff,** b. May 8, 1870; d. Apr. 5, 1953; m. Feb. 6, 1897 Minerva Beatrice Mills (b. Dec. 7, 1871; d. May 18, 1952); Issue: (3)
1 Osgood Mills Woodruff, b. Dec. 13, 1897; d. Mar. 29, 1906
2 **Norris Counsell Woodruff,** b. Oct. 20, 1901; m. Apr. 4, 1923 Mabel Marion Fleming (b. Oct. 12, 1903); Issue: (2)

*—He was a sheriff of Lincoln County and one of the original incorporators of the Zimmerman Bank, founded in 1855 by Samuel Zimmerman.

**—He was a merchant in St. Davids.

1 **Laurence David Woodruff,** b. Feb. 20, 1924; m. May 23, 1947 Elizabeth Munro Wilcox (b. Feb. 15, 1924); Issue: (2)
1 James Laurence Dudley Woodruff, b. Apr. 3, 1951
2 Norris David Woodruff, b. Mar. 20, 1953
2 **Madelon Minerva Woodruff,** b. Oct. 26, 1926; m. Mar. 30, 1946 Lt.-Cdr. Robert Arthur Laidler (b. Nov. 14, 1924); Issue: (3)
1 Eran Louise Laidler, b. Sept. 29, 1947
2 Francine Elizabeth Laidler, b. Apr. 9, 1950
3 Robert Brant Laidler, b. May 9, 1955
3 Lillian Beatrice Woodruff, b. Feb. 20, 1904; d. Mar. 2, 1904

3 **Emma Eloise Woodruff,** b. 1872; d. Apr. 2, 1944; m. Henry David Symmes; Issue: (2)
1 Henry Woodruff Symmes, b. 1897; d. 1946; m. Anne Robertson; No issue
2 Paul David Symmes, b. ———; d. 1935
4 **Hugh Malcolm Woodruff,** b. Feb. 4, 1876; d. Feb. 27, 1952; m. June 29, 1898 Mary Wilhelmina Adams; Issue: (2)
1 **Wilfred Adams Woodruff,** b. Apr. 30, 1899; m. June 21, 1934 Marion MacPherson; Issue: (2)
1 Bruce Anthony Woodruff, b. Sept. 15, 1936
2 Mary Caroline Woodruff, b. May 7, 1941
2 **Julia Eloise Woodruff,** b. June 28, 1902; m. Warren Perry; Issue: (2)

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Generations

1 Nancy Perry, b. Nov. 21, 1929; m. Leslie Deming; Issue: 2)
1 Warren Deming, b. June 21, 1954
2 Sarah Deming, b. Aug. 1956

2 Susan Perry, b. Dec. 24, 1933; m. 1956 Savas Georgiou, Athens, Greece

CHAPTER IV

IN RETROSPECT

History is not hard to find in Upper Canada. Wherever one goes, there is not far away some fort or shrine, some weathered building, some battlefield or brooding monument where history hangs with an almost visible presence. Such places bring back memories of the spirit and high resolve of a people who cherished freedom enough to fight and die for it.

The Loyalists and the Pioneers came this way in a turbulent time. Hardship and danger were a way of life and security was unknown. But they came to stay. The privations and sorrows of frontier life they bore with dignity and quiet courage. Here they made their homes and raised their families. Here they toiled and fought to win a free life for themselves and a brighter future for their children. And here they built a new Nation.

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS

There have been many fine books about the Loyalists but none has rendered them more justice than is their due. They suffered much for their convictions – confiscation of their land and wealth, imprisonment, calumny and inhuman abuse. An easy decision could have alleviated their persecution but their loyalty to the Crown held them steadfast and they chose to endure the further hardships involved in hacking out new homes for their families in the Canadian wilderness under conditions that would quell all but the stoutest hearts among them. They are justly venerated in Canada for the blood they shed and the lives they gave that changed the course of our history. But for the Loyalists and the like thinking settlers who followed quickly in their footsteps, this country might for all time have been peopled and dominated by a French speaking Catholic race. And later, but for these same men and women, the whole of Canada might have become the fourteenth American State. On the Centennial of the settlement of Upper Canada by the United Empire Loyalists (1784-1884), celebrations were held at Adolphustown, Toronto and Niagara. The Committee published a record of the proceedings in 1885, including a speech by Rt. Rev. T. B. Fuller, a former Bishop of Niagara, from which the following is an excerpt:

"I have ever admired the noble body of men who sacrificed their all—their comfortable farms and everything they had accumulated—for a principle, that of loyalty to the British Crown. There were other colonies

in the British Empire whose first settlers were convicts, viz.: Botany Bay and Van Dieman's Land, but such was not the case with our country. It was settled by men of principle—by men of education. There are men little removed from the beast that perishes—who have no principle, who are satisfied to live under any Government so long as their bodily wants are satisfied. Such were not the early settlers of Upper Canada—such were not the men who settled in the Niagara district, the Butlers, the Balls, the Swayzes, the Scroopes, the Whitmores, the Woodruffs, the Stalls, the Gregories, the Nelleses, the Pettits, the Lundys, the Kerbys, the Warrens, the Macklems, the Rykmans, the Ryersons and the thousands of United Empire Loyalists."

CHAPTER V

NIAGARA (Newark)

The first capital of Upper Canada where, in 1792, the first Parliament of Upper Canada enacted a constitution that gave us our first real laws of freedom and the right to trial by jury.

Niagara at her zenith was the rallying place for U.E. Loyalists and all who sought a just and liberal way of life under the protection of their king.

If we can remember nothing else of Niagara, let it be enshrined in the heart of every Canadian that it was here our enlightened forefathers enacted a statute abolishing negro slavery — the first such act by any state or nation in the world! While statesmen of the great nations, including our neighbor to the South, were still groping in the dark, this beneficent infant government held aloft a torch for all mankind.

The end of the War of 1812-1814 left the once beautiful town of Newark a scene of utter desolation. Every house had been burnt. The thick walls of St. Mark's, the two forts and the batteries were all that broke the dead level of rubbish and ashes. Nothing more discouraging could be imagined than the prospects before the townspeople who came back to start life anew. But come back they did. The Journals of the Legislative Assembly for 1828 reveal a total of 1262 people in the town and 1614 people in what then constituted the Niagara District. And some of the more enterprising of these were prepared to provide their neighbors with either the necessities of life (21 shops) or a flagon of spirits for their solace (86 Inn Keepers). And these solid citizens did not welcome itinerant competition. There were only 3 Horse Pedlars and 1 Foot Pedlar, their number discouraged by the intentionally punitive license fees of £10 for the huckster who could afford a horse and of £5 if he couldn't.

Because Niagara lay under the guns of the enemy across the river, York (Toronto) was chosen for the new seat of Parliament. In 1829 William Hamilton Merritt and his associates began the Welland Canal. These two factors led to Niagara's rapid eclipse for the old trade route by portage around the Falls was killed by the new rival. Many interests in the towns of Niagara, Queenston and Chippewa were ruined. Niagara's trade with the interior was cut off and many of her people moved either to York or to the new town on the canal, St. Catharines.

Historic old St. Mark's Church, built originally from bricks brought overseas as ballast in sailing ships, contains many valuable records of early life in the community. During the Rector's incumbency circa 1829, the money to build the Rectory was partly collected by two sisters, Mrs. W. H. Dickson and Mrs. Woodruff. This is mentioned by Janet Carnochan in her "History of Niagara" but there is no further identification.

CHAPTER VI

ST. DAVIDS

"Mr. Richard Woodruff made the first settlement of this place in the year 1800," says the "Historical Atlas for the Counties of Lincoln and Welland". But the village takes its name from Major David Secord of Butler's Rangers, who built a mill there about 1786 at the head of Four Mile Creek. William Henry Woodruff, second son of Richard (who was my great grandfather William's brother) married Mary Secord, the daughter of Major David Secord who was the third son of James and Laura (Ingersoll) Secord.

St. Davids was wantonly burned by the American forces in 1814, led by Colonel Stone of the New York Militia who was dismissed from the services of his country for the crime. The circumstances are vividly described by Mrs. David Secord and her daughter, Mrs. William Henry Woodruff in Chapter IX of "The Story of Laura Secord" by Emma A. Currie, as follows:

The burning of St. Davids by the American forces, July 19, 1814, was another of those unjustifiable and indefensible acts which added to the cruelties of the struggle and increased the hatred towards the invaders. It was never defended by the Americans, and the officer at whose command the torch was applied was court-martialed and dismissed from the service. The circumstances, as related by Mrs. Secord, wife of Major David Secord, were verified by her daughter, Mrs. Woodruff and her husband Mr. Woodruff gave additional information."

"A picket of Canadian volunteers was stationed under the command of Cornet Henry Woodruff near the place now owned by Mr. Fairlie. This point was on the direct road leading to Shipman's Corners (now St. Catharines). Another road leading to the same place, striking the main road at the Ten Mile Creek (now Homer). A few rods from Mr. Fairlie's was the road leading to Short Hills, called the Thorold Road, and another road leading to the township of Stamford. An American scouting party attempted to pass through the line, but was warned not to make the attempt, as it would be fired upon. No one was injured but the horse of the commanding officer was killed. He made terrible threats of vengeance, upon which Cornet Woodruff told him he should be thankful that it was his horse instead of himself." No one thought anything serious would result. Two days after, in the afternoon, notice was given to the people to leave, as the place was to be burned. One cannot describe the surprise

and terror with which these tidings were received. The women were busy at their usual avocations. Their husbands and brothers were away. Hurriedly the children were sent to a place of safety, Mrs. Secord directing them to go to her brother's, Mr. Thomas Page of Pelham. Few had horses, wagons or conveyances of any kind; mostly all had to go on foot. Mrs. Secord placed some of the more valuable articles of furniture in a wagon, hoping to save them, but she was unable to get away. Then collecting her own cows and those of her neighbors, she drove them to Lewis Smith's, a farm about a mile from St. Davids. It was near 6 p.m. when she left, and she could see the gleam of bayonets as the Americans came on the Queenston road. She said: "During the evening we could see the smoke and flames rising from our burning homes. The road was filled with people, and I had hard work to find my children. The next morning my husband was on patrol duty with another officer. As he saw the crowd, "That looks like my flock," he said to his companion, and rode rapidly forward to see what was the cause. He soon heard the dreadful story, that his home, the mills and other buildings were nothing but a heap of ashes. We stayed some days in Pelham, and when I came back I found, in pure wantoness, they had destroyed a number of young pigs and burned them in the ruins of our house. This at the time seemed my greatest loss, for I had depended upon these for winter use."

So apparently this ruthless act was precipitated by Cornet Henry Woodruff in pursuit of his military duties. This was most probably Henry Augustus Woodruff, brother of Richard and William, who according to family records was given a commission in the British 19th Dragoons. The British 19th was stationed in the Niagara District in 1814 and they enlisted many Canadians but their names, even the officers, were never transferred to Canadian Military Records which embrace only the Militia and other Canadian Units.

The Niagara Historical Society in Pamphlet No. 27, lists buildings burned and destroyed in St. Davids by General Brown's Army, 19th July, 1814, including the following:

David Secord, 3 houses, barns, mill	£224
Richard Woodruff, house, shop	£300
Widow Clement, house, barn	£600
David Secord, house, etc.	£375
Widow Secord, house	£500
Timothy Street, houses, shop	£430

Though condign punishment was swiftly administered to the enemy as Youngstown, Manchester, Lewiston and Buffalo were put to the torch by our troops, St. Davids never recovered her former importance for the

same reasons that affected Niagara.

At one time St. Davids boasted a brewery, a tannery, a distillery, a furniture factory and several grist mills. St. Davids had, in fact, become the centre of the milling industry and was first designated as "Four Mile Creek Mills."

For a short time William Lyon MacKenzie published his newspaper in St. Davids. There was another press, the "Spectator" . . . "Printed and Published for the Proprietors at St. Davids, Upper Canada; Every Friday morning at four dollars per annum (one half payable in advance; less than one year payable in advance). Elijah Secord, Secretary; Richard Cockerall, Editor." This press later removed to Niagara where it continued for a number of years. Two issues of this paper are in the collection of Percy C. Band of Toronto and are of interest for advertisement notices which they carry concerning the partnership of Henry Augustus Woodruff (1790-1864) with Timothy Street, a prominent merchant of the community and are quoted as follows:

From Vol. 1—No. 14 of Feb. 2, 1816

Street & Woodruff

Saddlers

Respectfully inform their friends and the public in general that they have commenced the Saddlery & Harnessing Business, in all its various branches, in the village of St. Davids, and flatter themselves from the knowledge they have of their business, to give general satisfaction and hope to receive a share of the public patronage. They keep constantly on hand or make on short notice all kinds of

Saddle Caps
Bridles
Portmanteaus
Valices
Trunks & etc.

N.B. Cash paid for Deer's Hair, Coarse Wool and Sewing Thread

(The Deer's Hair referred to the hides with the hair left on which were used for the making of trunks).

It seems that the partners found that being "in harness" together was a little too confining for their personalities since this confident venture proved short lived. In Vol. 1—No. 18 of the "Spectator" dated May 3, 1816 appears a notice of dissolution of the partnership with the advice that the business would be carried on by Timothy Street alone.

During the War of 1812-1814, the British held St. Davids seven times, the Americans six and in between there were periods when it was virtually a "no man's land". During the campaign, the Government of Upper Canada was moved to wherever the Lieutenant Governor made his headquarters and St. Davids bore the distinction of becoming the Capitol of Upper Canada for several months under De Rottenberg and Drummond in 1813 and again for a short time under Drummond in 1814.

St. Davids next short burst of fame (or infamy) came during the Rebellion and was due in part at least to the same Major David Secord who sheltered Robert Gourlay there when he was sick and friendless and no one else dared to do so. Thereafter St. Davids was known to some as the "Rebel Hole".

An old Niagara newspaper advertisement evidences the formation of a limited company whose object was to sink a test well for petroleum or salt. A Henry Woodruff is listed as one of those interested but there is no record of the results of this enterprise.

Before the burning there were many fine substantial homes but not many were rebuilt on their former scale. "Woodbourne" where my grandparents lived was a large and dignified place with spacious landscaped grounds and as a youth I spent many happy hours there, especially in the cavernous (and forbidden, of course) attic where were stored family records and remnants of Lincoln Militia equipment including uniforms and a sword which a Woodruff had carried against the Yankees and the Yankee inspired Fenian rabble. My grandfather, Henry Counter Woodruff built Woodbourne and the next house to the North was built by my great grandfather William. At first we thought William's house was clapboard but investigation disclosed hand made bricks between the inner and outer walls. Either it was recovered at some time or more probably, the bricks were used to fill the wall space for insulation and weather proofing a custom prevalent in New England. There are four Adam period fire places in the four front rooms in a good state of preservation. Each is carved differently and has been much admired. The kitchen still has the huge brick fireplace with the bake oven attached. The bake oven has separate flues from the main fireplace. Examples of this construction have become quite rare. The floor beams of this house are of walnut.

Another fine old red brick house of Georgian period is "Locust Hall," the home of Paul Woodruff, son of Francis, grandson of Richard Napoleon and great grandson of Richard (King Dick) who was Ezekiel's eldest son. Paul is the 4th generation Woodruff to live in this house whose white dining room mantel is listed in the Royal Ontario Museum. The doorway

with its fan and sidelights is sketched in "The Picture Gallery of Canadian History" by Canada's famous historical artist, C. W. Jefferys, R.C.A., and is described as follows:

"Locust Hall," St. Davids, was built in 1820 and has been owned and occupied by the Woodruff family for four generations. They have appreciated the fine architectural qualities of their house and it has been left intact and in harmony with its period. The walls are built of brick (smaller than those of today) laid in Flemish bond fashion, i.e., alternate "headers" and "stretcher," sides and ends; with stone quoins at the corners and stone lintels and sills for the windows."

Among this family's many treasured possessions is General Brock's jewel box, left there when the General stayed at the house for a time during the campaign of 1812-1814 and a beautifully hand written ledger from "King Dick's" general store.

Major David Secord owned the land adjoining that part of my grandfather's property (which was to become my father's farm) and which is now the St. Davids Golf Course. Major Secord donated that portion where the old Methodist Church used to be in order to provide a local burying ground and here rest many of the Woodruffs, the Clements, the DeVeauxs and the Secords. Originally this was the St. Davids Wesleyan Chapel. An old document dated September 5, 1820 and drawn by Ezekiel Woodruff describes the purchase of the one acre of land from David Secord for the sum of five shillings. This document names the stewards of the church and lays down some strict rules for the conduct of its affairs particularly with respect to any visiting ministers who might feel inclined to deviate slightly from the published doctrines of John Wesley. The founders who all signed the document were: Ezekiel Woodruff, William Woodruff, Richard Woodruff, David Secord, Timothy Street, the Rev. Henry Pope, George Shaw and Josiah Brown.

Among other social activities of the early days in which the Woodruffs took their part, were the local Library, The Mechanics Institute (for the promotion of the Arts and Sciences) and the Benevolent Society. The last named was organized to look after the needy in the district but each case was investigated by a visiting inspector and Richard Woodruff was listed as one of these while his brother William was a member of the "Collectors" committee. ("History of Niagara" by Janet Carnochan). When news of the great suffering in Ireland resulting from the potato famine was received, the "Mail" published a list of contributors and Richard is shown as donating £25 and William £10 which were sizeable amounts for the time.

CHAPTER VII

THE WAR OF 1812 - 1814

Though the Woodruffs, the Clements and the Secords fought in other battles of this war, they are particularly identified with the great victory won at Queenston Heights.

For some unfortunate reason now buried in the dim past, most of the accounts of that Battle stress the valor of the York Volunteers and the British Regulars who, as a matter of fact, took a bad beating on the morning when the action began. Engaged were three Battalions of York Volunteers from the North shore of Lake Ontario and four Battalions of Lincoln Militia from the South shore. The 1st Battalion of Lincolns in which Richard and William served, was drawn from Niagara and Grantham Townships.

Lt.-Col. E. A. Cruikshank in "The History of the 13th Battalion" states that it is not surprising that as the County of Lincoln as it was then constituted, formed the principal area of the war, that its Militia should be called to arms more frequently than any other in actual defence of its homes.

Men whose homes and families lay directly in the path of the menace were inspired to their utmost. The Yorks and the British were far from theirs and though most official accounts stress the part they played, the fact remains that this was a purely local victory.

When General Brock fell assaulting the Heights, command fell to General Sheaffe who led his men by a route near St. Davids (which now bears an historical marker designated: "Sheaffe's Path to Victory") and struck the surprised enemy on their flank. It was a complete rout and those who did not surrender beat an ignominious retreat. American forces outnumbered ours by four to one but when they heard the war cries of our loyal Indian allies, some of their militia reserves refused to cross the river to help their hard pressed comrades holding the Heights.

Eight of eleven companies under General Sheaffe were Lincoln Militia and it was their charge that saved the day. Of eleven officers cited by Sheaffe, eight were Lincoln Militia men. These are all facts which you can verify and then assess for yourself the validity of our official histories which are so lavish in their praise of the Yorks and the British Regulars.

Outnumbered and out-gunned, our pioneer forefathers administered

a lesson to the enemy which most of her historians have conveniently forgotten.

My great grandfather William gives an eye-witness account of the battle in a letter to David Thorburn of Queenston, a prominent merchant who later represented the County in Parliament. The original letter is in the collection of Percy C. Band of Toronto, but it is reproduced in "The Story of Laura Secord" as follows:

St. Davids,
July 29, 1840.

Dear Sir,

As you may be in want of some historical knowledge respecting the Battle of Queenston Heights, etc. On the morning of the 13th of October, 1812, a little before daylight, the American army commenced crossing the river.

Our forces consisted of the Grenadier and Light Company of the 49th Regiment (the whole before General Brock arrived was commanded by Capt. Dennis of the 49th Reg.) Two companies of the York Flanks, two from the head of the lake, the two flank companies of the 1st. Regiment L.M., also two from the Forty Mile Creek, lay at Niagara. We were put under arms about daylight.

I saw the late Gen. Brock start from the Government House at Niagara, followed by his aide, the late Col. Macdonell. He left orders that as soon as the troops and militia could be got into line, to march to Queenston.

We left Niagara about sunrise, and arrived at Durham's soon after. We made a small halt, and then marched up the hill to about where Mr. Stephens now lives; but before we got there we saw a small firing on the hill about the place where the hustings are erected, when we were informed that, after the death of Gen. Brock, the gallant Col. Macdonell had led up a small force to oppose the Americans, where he received his death wound. We then met our small force on retreat. Gen. Sheaffe arrived about this time and assumed the command. We then deployed through S. Vrooman's, Mr. Hamilton's and Philip Middeau's fields, and gained the hills without any opposition through the fields where James Williams now lives. We marched by old Mr. Chisholm's house, and formed a line in which are now Dr. Hamilton's fields, the Americans occupying the point of the mountain with a front of about a quarter of a mile, it being covered with brush and timber, we being wholly without covering of any kind. We here waited eyeing each other for about an hour, waiting for the two flank companies of the 2nd Regiment Militia, and the Grenadier Company of the 41st Regiment. The former arrived.

We were then ordered to advance. Our little field pieces commenced firing. It was returned by the Americans, with a six-pounder masked in the brush. A rapid advance was ordered, without firing a musket shot on our part, until a short distance from the enemy under cover of the woods and underbrush. We were then ordered to halt and fire, which was done. About this time the company of the 41st joined us on our extreme right.

We stood still but a short time, until, I supposed, we were ordered to advance with a double quick time. (**this is certainly a modest description of the bayonet charge of the Lincoln Militia**). The musketry made such a noise I heard no orders, but as others moved we all followed. The object, I supposed, was to dislodge them from their cover, and, if possible, take their field-piece, for without knowing or seeing (for the smoke was dense), we, our company, came smack against their field-piece, which when we advanced, I suppose they had abandoned.

The General and his aide, no doubt, as they ought to do, had a position where all was clear to them, but as the wind blew from the enemy we had their smoke and ours in our faces. To be more brief, the Americans, not being under discipline, would not be brought up again after they broke, but sought concealment under the bank . Our regulars and militia forces numbered about eight hundred and perhaps from eighty to one hundred Indians. I must observe that the most severe and destructive part of the engagement to our people was in the morning before and a little after the death of General Brock. The prisoners after the engagement numbered about nine hundred, exclusive of the dead and wounded.

Sir, all this is from personal observation by myself. I may err in some minutiae, but it is correct in the main features.

I have written a great deal without conveying much intelligence.

Yours,

(Signed) W. Woodruff.

David Thorburn,
Queenston.

CHAPTER VIII

SOME MORE RECENT PORTRAITS

Henry Counter Woodruff (my grandfather) as a young man of twenty-five, held a commission as Ensign in the 1st Battalion of the Lincoln Militia. The certificate from Sir Edmund Walker Head is addressed to "Henry Woodruff, Gentleman" and is dated April 29, 1859.

Henry Counter was thirty-two when he married Emma Eloise Osgood at the bride's home in Williamsville, N.Y., on March 12th, 1865. Their marriage certificate is very quaint, having an engraved wedding scene and an embellished border. The witnesses who signed it were Julia A. Woodruff, his sister and Horatio A. Osgood, Emma's brother. Both of these documents were in Mr. Percy C. Band's collection and he has been kind enough to give them to me.

Henry Counter was a tall, spare man of abstemious habits who took great pride in his agricultural and horticultural achievements. The Woodruff red grape and the Woodruff Gage plum, listed in nursery catalogs until a few years ago, were introduced from stock which he had hybridized. My cousin Wilfred Adams Woodruff has the two Gold Medals which Henry Counter was awarded for having the best farms in Lincoln County in the 1880's and a bronze medal awarded to him by the Agriculture and Arts Association as third prize for the best Lincoln County farm in 1887. Later he became a noted breeder of Short Horn Cattle and the Short Horn Herd Books of that period mention him frequently.

Grandpa farmed over four hundred acres which necessitated employing help particularly since he devoted much of his time to the large general store which he operated on the prominent corner where the roads from St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Queenston meet. This building is still there and still in use.

Grandpa was a pillar of the Presbyterian Church, having made a large contribution toward its erection and he donated the land on which its Manse was built.

In the family's possession is a beautiful colored daguerrotype of Sarah Empey, his wife's mother and a photograph of David Ross Osgood, her father. David Ross Osgood was born in Portland, Maine, and he went to school there with the poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow whom he knew well and was fond of quoting to his children. My grandmother Emma had a great interest in her people, the Loyalist Empeys, the Osgoods and the

Ross's and fortunately much of this data has been preserved. (See Appendix, Items 15 and 16).

WILLIAM EMMASON WOODRUFF, B.A., L.L.B. (my father)

When he had to sign his middle name, my father wrote it Emerson. Actually it was Emmason, which his mother (Emma Osgood) chose to mark him especially hers.

His scholastic brilliance became apparent at a very early age and his parents sent him to high school at St. Catharines. Strange to relate, he met and knew there, David Fleming of Port Dalhousie who many years later was to become my father-in-law. Although he had qualified for University at sixteen, University College of the University of Toronto, would not admit him until he had attained the required age of seventeen in 1887.

In 1889 he was awarded a Blake Scholarship. He graduated in 1890 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts when he was nineteen and in 1891 he received his L.L.B. In Arts he won first class honors in every subject and the first Gold Medal to be awarded in the Science of Political Economy.

He followed the practice of law in partnership with Alexander Fraser at Niagara Falls for a number of years. Subsequently he did legal work and accounting for the Chatham Natural Gas Company, the Dominion Canister Company of Dundas and MacKenzie, Mann & Company of Toronto. On this latter assignment we lived for two years in Monterey, Mexico, where I contracted typhoid and malaria and the doctor advised our return to a temperate climate which was effected with difficulty in 1908 due to political unrest within the country.

So my father took over his fruit farm in St. Davids and we lived there until I was ready for high school. This farm is now the St. Davids Golf Course. Our home was a quarter of a mile away, on the main highway, a split level design of poured concrete with the main walls almost a foot thick. On the lower level adjourning the dining room was a small conservatory where mother started annuals for the garden. I can recall the tourists of those days stopping to admire our place with its honeysuckle covered verandah, the ivy covered walls, the perennial beds and Mother's special pride, her June roses, tea roses and hybrid perpetuals.

The house was very modern for that time. The living room and drawing room on the first floor which also had four bedrooms, were divided

slightly by a lace-like archway of finely carved white oak finished in a light golden tone. There was a huge hot-air furnace that would burn any kind of fuel. In the attic was a lead lined tank to which soft water was pumped from a cistern beneath the floor of the large downstairs storage room at the back of the house. At first the pumping was done by hand and it was quite a chore but later we had a gasoline engine to do the work. Well back from the house was another concrete building which housed an acetylene plant where gas was generated for lighting but when electricity became available we were provided with a much safer form of illumination. So actually we had central heating, soft water for washing and a bathroom and kitchen with the same basic fixtures as used today which not many country homes could boast at that time. Our drinking water, however, came from a well on the property. In 1914, so they could provide a home for me while I was going to high school, we moved to 42 Beulah Avenue in Hamilton where your mother and I are still living. The old home in St. Davids was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt to its former size.

MINERVA BEATRICE (MILLS) WOODRUFF

My mother on her father's side, came of a distinguished pioneer Loyalist family intimately connected with Hamilton's early history. Her great grandfather James Mills (1) came to Upper Canada from Newark, New Jersey, in 1793. Her grandfather was the Honorable Samuel Mills who sat in the Legislative Council of Canada as a life member from 1849 until Confederation when he was appointed a Senator. He built and donated to the congregation the beautiful stone Gothic Church (All Saints) at the corner of King and Queen Streets and he donated a large tract of land to the city adjoining Dundurn Park and now known as Harvey Park. Her father, James Holton Mills, graduated in law and devoted his time to the management of his properties.

For further interesting history of the Mills family in addition to the extract genealogy given in the Appendix, Item No. 11, you can refer to the genealogy compiled by Stanley Mills and published in 1926. If you have no copy you can find one in the Hamilton Public Library. It is entitled, "The Mills, Gage and Smith Families."

Mother was very beautiful and as a girl had many suitors when she was attending Loretto, a Catholic convent in Hamilton and later Bishop Strachan College for girls in Toronto. She loved the theatre and as a belle of her day, took a prominent part in amateur theatricals which were

then much in vogue. She met and married my father when she was twenty-five and he twenty-six.

They celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in 1947. Mother lived to know three of her great grand children, Dad to know about the fourth and in this they found great pleasure before dying within a year of each other.

So my grandchildren are the seventh generation Canadian, the eleventh generation Colonial English of the family and can reflect with pride upon their United Empire Loyalist heritage and Pioneer ancestry. (See appendix, Item No. 19).

Mother was named after her father's sister, Minerva Margaretta Mills who married Col. Robert Dillon. The children of this marriage inherited the Holy Roman Empire Baronetcy of Lismullen Park, County Meath, Ireland.

CHAPTER IX

SOURCES AND REFERENCES

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the help given to me in the gathering of this material by various members of the family and particularly to Wilfred A. Woodruff of St. Davids, Jack H. Woodruff of Niagara Falls and Mr. and Mrs. Percy C. Band of Toronto.

In addition to family records, the following is a list of the sources from which this information has been gleaned, each of which contains one or more direct references to some member or connection of the family. Many of the titles quoted are to be found now only in the Canadiana or Americana collections of our libraries or historical societies. There is no doubt further data to be found, both from Canadian sources and particularly from the records of the State Library in Connecticut. I hope it may be possible for some member of the family to pursue this task and for that purpose this list should be helpful.

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CHAPTER X

APPENDIX

Item No. 1

Notices Concerning the Early Freemen in New England

Before a member of society could exercise the right to suffrage or hold public office, he had to be made a Freeman by the General or Quarterly Court. To become such he was required to produce evidence that he was a respectable member of some Congregational Church. This regulation was so far modified by Royal Order in 1664 as to allow individuals to be made Freemen who could obtain certificates of their being correct in doctrine and conduct, from clergymen acquainted with them. In 1631 a test was devised which required all Freemen to be Church members. This was upon the first appearance of a dissent in regard to religious opinions. But even this test, in the public opinion, required great caution, as in 1632 it was agreed that a civil magistrate should not be an elder in the Church.

Item No. 2

The Freemen's Oath was the first paper printed in New England. It was printed at Cambridge by Stephen Daye in 1639 upon a single sheet, in the manner of a handbill, and without date. It was in the following words as established in 1634:

> "I, being by God's providence, an Inhabitant, and Freeman, within the jurisdiction of this Commonwealth, do freely acknowledge myself to be subject to the Government thereof. And do therefore do so swear by the great and dreadful name of the Everliving God, that I will be true and faithful to the same, and will accordingly yield assistance and support thereunto, with my person and estate, as in equity I am bound; and will also truly endeavor to maintain and preserve all the liberties and privileges thereof, submitting myself to the wholesome Laws and Orders made and established by the same. And further that I will not plot or practice any evil against it, or consent to any that shall do so, but will timely discover and reveal the same to lawful authority now so established for the speedy preventing thereof. Moreover, I do solemnly bind myself in the sight of God, that when I shall be called to give my voice touching any such matter of this State, in which Freemen are to deal, I will give my vote and suffrage as I shall judge in my own conscience

may best conduce and tend to the publik weal of the body, so help me God in the Lord Jesus Christ."

Item No. 3

THANKFUL (WRIGHT) WOODRUFF
b. 1686 - d. - 1774

Capt. Benjamin Wright m. **Thankful Taylor**
b. 1660 - d. 1743 1680 b. 1664 - d. 1701

Samuel Wright, Jr. m. **Elizabeth Burt**
b. 1654 - d. 1675 1653
Killed by Indians

Henry Burt M. Eulalia
b. 1662 - d. 1690
Came from England prior to 1638. Ex-President Grover Cleveland descended from one of Henry Burt's daughters.

Deacon Samuel Wright m. **Margaret**
d. 1665 d. 1681
Freeman in 1648
Nathaniel Wright
of London, England

Capt. John Taylor m. **Thankful Woodward**
b. 1641 - d. 1704 1662
Killed by Indians

Capt. Henry Woodward m. **Elizabeth**
d. 1683 d. 1690
(Capt. Henry Woodward came from England in the "James" among most eminent of early settlers)

John Taylor m. **a widow**

Note: Capt. Benjamin Wright and Thankful Taylor had seven children: Benjamin Jr. (b. 1681), Thankful (b. 1686), Mindwell who married Stephen Belding, Jacob and four others. When Thankful died in 1701, he married Mary Baker of Springfield and three more children were added to his household, William, Mary and Experience.

Item No. 4

Paragraphs from
"A PURITAN OUTPOST"
(By Herbert C. Parsons)

"In the year of peace, 1743, just when the long period of calm was coming to an unforeseen end, the greatest hero of the valley's struggles, New England's most resolute scout, Capt. Benjamin Wright, went to his reward. His 83 years covered the entire period of the Colony's Indian Wars, save only the last French and Indian incursions. The year of his birth was the one in which the death of Massasoit, faithful friend of the Pilgrims, signified to an extent not then sensed, the end of the comity between the native and the invading races. He was the grandson of Samuel, the early emigrant from London who was among the first of the settlers at Springfield, and again at Northampton, and he could remember the day, when he was five years old, on which that founder of the family died sitting in his chair as if asleep. His mother was of that family of Burt which had played a leading part in the first century of the Connecticut valley's stirring pioneer history."

Leaving Northampton, where Benjamin was born July 13, 1660, Samuel Wright and his family were among the first white people to find a home at Northfield in 1673. There were seven children: Samuel 19, Joseph 16, Benjamin 13, Ebenezer 10, Elizabeth 7, Eliezer 5, and Hannah 2. They were gathered into the stockade that frightsome day, September 2, 1675, when the Indians fell upon the little settlement; all but the father, who was in command of the company that had been provided for defense and who fell, first victims of Indian bullets on Northfield soil. Only Samuel, the oldest son, suffered physical harm, receiving into his body a bullet to remain there all the rest of his eighty years. But into the heart of each of them was carried a wound that would cause it to pulsate in resentment all their days. They shared the unspeakable terror of the nights and days of imprisonment in the little fort, heard together the distant shots of the battle, suffered as one the awful silence that followed it and joined in the journey down the valley which left the town of their pioneer hopes a desolate waste.

Benjamin's years from fifteen to an early matured majority were spent in Northampton. He was among the first in the re-occupation in 1683, and of the last to leave when the village had dwindled to a handful. Through the quarter century of Northfield's existence only in name, he served in every soldierly adventure, began his scouting career in 1688, when pursuing the red men after an attack upon Deerfield had rescued the two boys from their Indian captors at the then far northern point, opposite the mouth of the Ashuelot River, and was in the thick of adventures and the defences of the eleven years of Queen Anne's war. In 1708 he had led a ranging party far up the Connecticut, the first of those ventures which came to mark him as the premier ranger of the Colonies, and the next year, with his few men, had crossed the Green Mountains to Champlain country, boldly attacked the enemy, killed eight of them, destroyed a small fleet of canoes and thus shut off one of those French-sent invasions of the valley, to what saving of lives and homes is only to be guessed.

In 1709, then in his sixtieth year, he had written the letter, immortal in the frontier annals, with its offer to the Governor of the Colony, "Here am I. Send me." (Following is a copy of the letter):

"May it please your Excellency:

With submission and under correction, I would offer my service to your Excellency, if that in wisdom you send forces to Canada from our parts by land, that "Here am I, send me." This year I have done service and hope I may again, not that I would trouble your Excellency, but am willing to go.

Not else, but in duty, I subscribe.

Your Excellency's most humble servant."

(signed) Benjamin Wright.

Again he was first in Northfield pioneer, when the permanent foothold was gained. At the second settlement, he had brought his young wife, Thankful and their little Benjamin, born in 1681. Thankful was the daughter of Captain John Taylor, who was killed while leading the pursuit of French and Indians after they had wiped out the hamlet at the base of Mount Tom. She had died in 1701, leaving him seven children, and he, with the celerity that marked all his conduct and was not unseemly even in this event, had within four months married Mary Baker of Springfield. William, Mary and Experience had been added to the household, and there were ten, not to mention the Thankful, Rachel and Martha, his son Benjamin's children, and the first baby of his son Remembrance. In his ripe years he had the gratification of seeing his own spirit animating his much younger brother, Benoni, who was born ten days after that fateful attack on the village in which his father was killed, and his own sons, Benjamin, Remembrance, Daniel and William holding commissions in the fighting militia. Of the girls, Thankful married a Connecticut Woodruff and Mindwell was the wife of Stephen Belding, the new Miller of the town. One son, alone, Jacob, had left the home country and was settled in far-away South Carolina.

Item No. 5

THE CONNECTICUT TOWNS

FARMINGTON

On the sparkling Farmington River is a lovely community with many beautiful homes, a number of which were designed and built by Captain Judah Woodruff who also built the First Church of Christ Congregational with its slender sky piercing spire. This Church is considered one of the most beautiful examples on the continent of the Rennaissance Gothic architecture inspired by Christopher Wren. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, Fourteenth Edition)

Since Matthew I Woodruff was one of the earliest settlers and one of the original proprietors of the Town, it is but natural that many of his descendants lie buried there. In just one of the old cemeteries I counted (in 1957) the tombstones of thirty-nine Woodruffs and of course there were many of the North family (Matthew II's second wife) as well.

LITCHFIELD

Litchfield is surely one of the most beautiful towns in Connecticut, situated as it is in a region of picturesque scenery including Mt. Prospect and Lake Bantam, the largest in the State. Captain Nathaniel Woodruff I was among the first settlers when the town was laid out in 1720 after purchase of the land from the Indians for £15. He and Thankful are buried there as are many other Woodruffs and those of the families into

which they married such as the Plums and the Kilbournes. In the time of the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783, an Honor Roll of Litchfield County listed twelve Woodruffs, equalled in number only by the Smiths but by the time of the Civil War, none appear in the records.

It was here in July 1776 that the statue of George III which had been dragged from Bowling Green in New York City, was melted down to make bullets. Litchfield was the site of the first law school in America which Ezekiel Woodruff may have attended since it was his boyhood home. The old Public Records for Litchfield and Farmington give the names of many Woodruffs in the Army Lists for the period as well as those who held town offices. Ten held commissions in the Army, three were Assembly Representatives, two Selectmen, four Justices of the Peace, three Town Clerks, six Listers (Assessors), six Grand Jurors, five Constables and nine Lawyers, the latter all graduates of Yale.

Item No. 6

JOHN HALL	m.	**Esther**
b. 1584		d. in England
d. 1673		
Richard Hall	m.	**Mary**
b. 1620		d. 1691
d. 1691		
Capt. John Hall	m.	**Elizabeth Cornwell**
b. 1648	1674	b. 1651
d. 1711		d. 1689
Giles Hall I	m.	**Esther Hamlin**
b. 1680		b. 1695
d. 1750		d. 1751
Capt. Giles Hall II	m.	**Anna (or Annah) Lord, 2nd**
b. 1720	July 29	b. Aug. 30, 1728
d. Dec. 9, 1783	1748	d. Aug. 17, 1805

Daughter of James Lord, b. Saybrook, Conn., Jan. 23, 1695; d. Nov. 6, 1742; m. Dec. 21, 1725, Sarah Goodrich, b. May 12, 1703; d. Nov. 5, 1784, daughter of Col. David and Prudence Churchill Goodrich of Wethersfield, Conn. (See "Genealogy of the Lord Family, Descendants of Thomas Lord" by Kenneth Lord, New York, 1946).

Giles (III)	b. Nov. 6, 1749
Esther	b. Nov. 26, 1751
Richard	b. July 1, 1754 d. at sea; age 18 yrs.
John Stocker	b. Feb. 3, 1757
James	b. Feb. 3, 1759 d. July 2, 1760
SARAH*	b. May 23, 1761 d. Nov. 26, 1835 m. June 30, 1782 **EZEKIEL WOODRUFF**
James	b. May 7, 1763 d. at sea; age 21 yrs.
Anna (II)	b. Aug. 24, 1765 m. Sept. 22, 1794 Abijah Hoyt

Martha bp. 1768
Jabez bp. 1770
d. July 14, 1773
*—See Edwin Stearn's "Middletown, Connecticut Families", Vol. 4, P. 152.

Item No. 7

THE LOYALIST CLEMENTS

The Clement sisters, Anne and Margaret, who married the Woodruff brothers, Richard and William, were daughters of Colonel Joseph Clement and Mary Margaret Duffet. The history of this family of Huguenot ancestry is well portrayed by the following quotations:
From: **"The Story of Laura Secord" by Emma A. Currie**

Excerpt, Chapter V — "St. Davids and Vicinity."

"In the burying-ground rest many of the Secords, Clements and Woodruffs; Judge DeVeaux, the founder of DeVeaux College at Niagara Falls, N.Y., and his wife are buried there. Mrs. DeVeaux was the sister of Richard and William Woodruff. There were three brothers in the Clement family — Joseph, "John the Ranger" and James. Their lands were all in this neighborhood. When Mrs. Joseph Clement died in 1842, considerable of the estate of Joseph Clement was purchased by his nephew, Major Joseph Clement. Mrs. Clement gave to each of her daughters, Mrs. Lowell, Mrs. Dunton, Mrs. Richard Woodruff and Mrs. William Woodruff, building sites on the main road."

Excerpt, Chapter XIX. — "Mrs. Joseph Clement"

"Among the U.E. Loyalists who settled in St. Davids and vicinity were the three Clement brothers — Joseph at St. Davids, and "John the Ranger" and James who took land below the ridge. All had large families, and their descendants of the fifth and sixth generation are the men and women of today. Mrs. Clement was a French Canadian, whose maiden name was Margaret Duffet, born in Montreal during the French regime, educated at the Hotel Dieu Nunnery, and always retained the French accent. She was a small person with keen black eyes, and strong individuality. Her father was a surgeon in the French military service. Mr. Clement was in the English Commissary Department during the war and also the American Revolution, serving in the Rangers. The Clement brothers were all in the English service. Dr. Duffet strongly objected to the attention paid his daughter by Joseph Clement. In those days medical men went to their duties on horseback. Whenever Dr. Duffet went a letter was carefully concealed in the padded part of the saddle, and an answer returned in the same way. An elopement and marriage (**May 9, 1784; see Crysler Genealogy**) was the result of this correspondence, and a home in Upper Canada. Mrs. Clement visited Montreal but once afterwards.

Her only brother some years after settled in Michigan. On a map of Michigan there is a small stream called Duffet's Creek. This brother visited her on his journey to Detroit. This story was told by her and is a true milk-pail story. As she was going to her evening duty to milk the cow, her brother clad in knee-breeches, silk stockings, shoes with buckles like the gentlemen of his time, accompanied her. As he saw the hardships of her life he put his head on the rail fence and wept. This was the only time they met. In her house were Majolica plates, brought by her ancestors from France that are now treasured heirlooms of her descendants. Mr. Clement's life ended before the War of 1812. She reared a large family and possessed remarkable business ability. In her later years she became a Methodist. She always carried a large-type black velvet covered hymn book with gilt clasp. She is the "Widow Clement mentioned in John Ross Robertson's "History of Masonry in Canada" which shows she had colored slaves. The oldest Masonic document in Upper Canada tells that Brother Joseph Clement was in the Eighth Regiment."

Joseph who wielded the persuasive quill that won him Mary Margaret Duffet for his bride also succeeded in amassing considerable wealth, based originally on the land grants which the Loyalist Clements received for services rendered to the Crown. Included in these are the Petitions listed on July 6, 1796 in the "Simcoe Papers" as follows:

No. 39 Catherine Clement, 2,000 acres recommended to the heirs of the late Lt. Lewis Clement.

No. 41 Joseph Clement, J. P. Clement and James Clement, sons and heirs of Lt. Lewis Clement, recommended, 2,000 acres.

For most of his life Joseph was an officer of the Lincoln Militia, having gained the rank of Major by 1794 which in those days was the second in command of a unit and around the turn of the century, he held the command.

Joseph and Mary Margaret had six daughters and four sons and the old homestead is still in use at St. Davids. Mary Margaret is buried in the private Warner Burying Ground near St. Davids, just East of the Queen Elizabeth Way, which is now maintained by the Niagara Parks Commission. Her stone is within a brick fenced enclosure but there is none for her husband Joseph whom she outlived by many years and who lies buried beside her. Joseph is several times referred to in contemporary records as having "disappeared from the scene just prior to the outbreak of the War of 1812-1814." When he vanished there naturally followed a wave of speculation which thru the years finally resolved into a rational

explanation. It came to be generally believed that Joseph had found himself the victim of a dreaded disease (probably cancer) which would soon end both his life and his suffering. Not wanting to become a burden to his family, he composed his affairs, made his will and then took his own life. In those days suicide was considered a great disgrace and so it was whispered that Joseph had been buried under the floor of his barn and then secretly re-buried in the family plot when the intensive search for his body had been given up. Suffice it to say that the story is substantially correct. The true facts have always been known to the Clements and the Woodruffs and they reflect nothing but credit on the courage of this old soldier. For over a hundred and forty-five years this family secret has been handed down to the oldest member of each generation of the two families.

There are many references to the Clement family in books devoted to that period from which the following have been selected:

From: **"The History of Freemasonry in Upper Canada"**
(By John Ross Robertson)

"The first record we have of Masonry in Upper Canada is the original MS certificate of Bro. Joseph Clement, of Free and Accepted Masons, from the grand constitution of England, and held in the King's or Eighth Regiment of Foot, dated 1780."

(A fac-simile of the certificate of Bro. Joseph Clement appears opposite page 252, Vol. 1).

Another item of interest in this history is the following notice which appeared in the Upper Canada Gazette:

"For sale. The negro man and woman, the property of Mrs. (widow) Clement. They have been bred to the business of a farm; will be sold on highly advantageous terms, for cash or land. Apply to Mrs. Clement, Niagara, January 9th, 1802."

Unfortunately it has not been possible to positively place this widow in the Clement family.

Robertson's history of Freemasonry is the source also for an interesting story concerning Capt. John P. Clement, brother of Bro. Joseph. In the War of 1812-1814, during the fighting at Chippewa, his interference saved the life of one of the captured Americans who was about to be scalped by one of our Indian allies. Some months later Capt. John was himself taken prisoner and lodged in a jail in New York State where next day to his great surprise he found that his custodian was the man whose life he had saved. Out of gratitude his ex-prisoner informed him that he would

arrange for his escape that night and provide a horse and wagon to take him to the frontier.

From: **"History of Niagara"**
(By Janet Carnochan)

"Jan. 9th, 1867, Died, Colonel Joseph Clement, aged 76. He was one of the oldest, most wealthy and respectable residents of the Township, one of the old stock of United Empire Loyalists who first settled this part of Upper Canada. He was one of the veterans of 1812, and during the "Trent Affair", sick and feeble in strength, turned out to take command of the 1st Battalion of the Lincoln Militia, ready to die in harness." (This is not the Col. Joseph Clement who married Mary Margaret Duffet. The Clements were a very prolific family and they repeated the family names with each generation. This Colonel Joseph was a son of James, our Colonel Joseph's brother).

From: **"Annals of Niagara"**
(By William Kirby, F.R.S.C.)

"The Whitmores, Clements and Lawrences were prosperous wealthy farmers. John Clement, who took up a large tract of land in the Township, had been a most conspicuous and active leader of the Northern Confederate Indians, an embodied force whose services in scouting and hunting down the rebel bands of partisans and Sons of Liberty were a striking feature of the war. Captain John Clement caught and destroyed a large body of partisans under a noted rebel leader, Capt. Bull. He acquired the name of "Ranger John" and as such is referred to in the Canadian epic poem, "The U.E." (By William Kirby). The old hero is buried in St. Mark's Churchyard."

There is listed also in the chapter from which the foregoing was quoted, the names of a group of young ladies representing twenty six of the prominent families who, in the author's words, "gave tone to polite society and spread refinement and good manners to the rest of the Provinces." Among the decorous belles of the day so recorded were three Misses Secord, one Miss Adams, one Miss Claus and two Misses Clement.

From: **"The Story of Laura Secord"**
(By Emma A. Currie)

"The battery at Vrooman's Point was two miles from where the Americans landed. Lewis Clement, eldest son of "John the Ranger" was in charge of this battery." (This was the Vrooman farm, near Queenston. The battery was on the river bank commanding the ferry crossing. A suitably inscribed stone has been placed there to commemorate the site.)

A very complete record of the Clements may be found in the genealogy published in 1936 by John Morden Crysler, entitled "Crysler and other early settlers in the Township of Niagara." It starts with a widow Clement's two sons, Joseph and Peter. Joseph married Anna Peake and had five children; the youngest, Lewis Cobes Clement, was born in 1725 and was a Lieutenant in the King's Royal Regiment of New York. Lewis Cobes Clement married Catherine Putman and they had six daughters and five sons of whom three sons, Joseph, John and James settled in the Niagara district and are referred to so often in the annals of those days.

This genealogy has fac-similes of many Clement documents and it traces over 450 of the descendants. "John the Ranger" Clement referred to in so many accounts, married for his second wife Mary Ball. A copy of the original water color portrait of her by Hoeppner Meyer is in the J. Ross Robertson historical collection.

It is interesting to note that two of Richard Woodruff's and Anne Clement's grandsons married Clements; James Richard Woodruff married Elizabeth Jessie Clement, a grand daughter of Joseph Clement and Henry Augustus Woodruff married Teresa Elizabeth Clement, a grand daughter of James Clement and Catherine Crysler.

Item No. 8

Samuel Zimmerman

A hundred years ago (1842) this enterprising Pennsylvanian contractor settled in the Niagara Peninsula and soon became its leading entrepreneur. His first contract, the construction of four locks and an aqueduct for the Welland Canal laid the basis for the fortune he amassed. Following this successful venture, he turned his attention to railways, bridges across the Niagara, steamships and other major ventures.

Two politicians of the top echelon of that time were Allan MacNab and Isaac Buchanan, both proponents of the proposed Great Western Railway which was to run from Niagara Falls to Hamilton. Through his association with these men who got themselves elected to the Legislature in order to carry out their plans, Zimmerman was awarded the $600,000.00 contract for building the line.

His next major project was the suspension bridge across the Niagara, a double deck structure carrying a railway on the top level and horse and buggy traffic on the lower. Within a short time a straggling settlement known as Elgin sprang up at the Canadian end of the bridge. Later Samuel was joined by his two brothers, Martin and James, and they proceeded to attack this area with their customary vigor. New broad streets were opened, schools and churches built and other facilities provided to develop the area which later was welded through their efforts into the community we now know as Niagara Falls.

After his marriage in 1848 to Margaret Ann, daughter of Richard Woodruff he bought 52 acres of land on the cliff directly opposite the American Falls and proceeded to lay out the most elaborate residence and grounds ever seen there up to that time, even including fountains, one of which was said to have cost over $15,000.00. He also acquired and rebuilt the "Clifton House" which soon became a fashionable rendezvous for visitors to the Falls and one of the best known hotels of the entire district.

Zimmerman built railroads in other parts of the country, he built and operated the steamer "Zimmerman" and was part owner of the "Peerless" which became a celebrated blockade runner in the civil war of the United States.

Samuel Zimmerman was himself a money lender and the rapid growth along the Niagara Frontier made the need for a bank imperative. He was generally credited with being the power behind the scene in the Legislature and since the people looked upon him as their leader and patron, he proceeded to establish the Zimmerman Bank. A bill providing for its incorporation with a capital of one quarter of a million pounds Sterling was put through Parliament on May 19, 1855. The officers and backers of this institution were his father-in-law Richard Woodruff, Richard's nephew Joseph Augustine Woodruff, John Ranney, James Oswald, Luther Holton and the Hon. John H. Cameron.

Samuel Zimmerman's brilliant career was ended when he was only 41 in the tragic Desjardins Canal accident of March 15, 1857. He was a passenger on the ill-fated train from Toronto which dived off the bridge into the waters of Hamilton Bay.

There very shortly followed a business depression which soon spread throughout the country. Unlike many of its contemporaries, the Zimmerman Bank had been soundly financed and conservatively managed but it soon found that it could not collect its debts and was forced to close though thru its short lifetime it had been the most influential financial institution in the district. All of the bank's notes and debts were redeemed by Samuel's executors and later an unsuccessful attempt to revive it was made under the name of the "Clifton Bank" but its charter was finally repealed in 1863 along with those of several other unfortunate banks. One of the $20.00 notes which I have, is very nicely engraved (on one side only) with a view of the Niagara bridge suspended from four large masonry towers. Two wood burning locomotives are depicted pulling trains on the upper level and a stage coach crossing on the lower and with a view of the Clifton Hotel set off in the left hand corner.

By the time of his demise, among other assets Samuel Zimmerman had acquired property in Niagara Falls valued at $400,000.00; in Toronto

$500,000 and in Hamilton, $100,000.00 in addition to 18,000 acres of land throughout the Province. The stately residence he had planned was completed only as far as the landscaping and the foundations of the house. Part of his grounds has now become the lovely Niagara Falls Victoria Park. The house where he had been living was itself the finest thereabouts and was rented by the Government for the Prince of Wales and his suite when he visited Canada in 1860.

After the death of Margaret Ann, Samuel built a vault and erected a monument to her memory in the burying ground at St. Davids. Although he married again, he and his younger sister are buried in St. Davids beside his wife.

Item No. 9

The Secord Family

The story of Laura Secord with which all Canadians are now familiar lay dormant for many years. It was largely due to the efforts of Emma A. Currie, Mrs. Curzon and others who labored so indefatigably that she was restored to her rightful place as our most celebrated heroine.

The Secords were of Huguenot ancestry and the family is quite fully documented in Mrs. Currie's book. The Niagara District Secords begin with James Secord of New Rochelle, N.Y., and his wife Madelaine Badeau who had eight children. The eighth child, James II, married Laura Ingersoll, the heroine of the War of 1812-1814. The third son, David (later Major David) after whom St. Davids was named, married three times leaving a total of fourteen children. His third wife, the widow Dunn (Polly Page) bore him two sons, Riall and Elijah and two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. In 1841 Mary Secord married William Henry Woodruff, the son of Richard. Their second daughter was named Mary Secord Woodruff.

The Loyalists Secords received large grants of land for their services to the Crown. Seven members of the family are listed in the "Simcoe Papers" as having been alloted 200 acres each.

Item No. 10

Judge Samuel DeVeaux

Judge DeVeaux was widely known and respected as a man of cultural attainments and great learning. He is mentioned in the story of the hermit of Niagara Falls, which has been preserved by Andrew Collard in "Canadian Yesterdays." The "hermit" whose real name was Francis Abbott had intrigued and mystified the local populace ever since his appearance at Niagara Falls on a June day of 1829 when he presented himself at the local library. He was a well-educated man, a world traveller and cosmopolite of some means but the mighty Niagara was apparently his undoing

for it cast upon him a spell of complete and utter fascination. From that time on he could not bear to venture beyond the area that encompassed either the sight or sound of the mighty cataract. So that he might feast his eyes and ears upon one of Nature's great spectacles, he built himself a cabin on Goat Island near the brink of the chasm. At that time a small wooden bridge had been built connecting the Island with Terrapin Rocks to provide a viewing platform for the more venturesome tourists. From this bridge a single piece of timber projected over the rushing torrent and here the Hermit could frequently be seen pacing slowly back and forth. Since this manoeuvre did not bring him quite close enough to eternity, he would occasionally petrify any chance onlooker by lowering himself into space where he would hang by his arms from the very end of the timber. It does not appear that this eccentric conduct was motivated in any way by exhibitionism but was rather some form of compulsion under the spell of which he was helpless. If anyone understood him it was Judge DeVeaux who seems to have been his very good friend, perhaps his only one. Upon those occasions when his mind emerged from Niagara's hypnotic spell, he would seek out the Judge and the two of them would exchange theological arguments by the hour.

Item No. 11

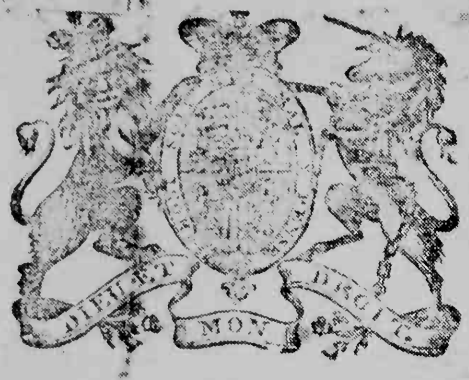
THE MILLS FAMILY

The record begins with John Mills and his second wife Anna Marcellas. They lived on Staten Island during the American Revolution but were strongly attached to the Loyalist cause. Their only son, James Mills, was born at Newark, N.J., on Mar. 10, 1774 and came to Upper Canada as a Loyalist in 1793. James Mills was a fur trader and he established a thriving business with the Indians, but Niagara's best beaver days were already a phase of the past as the trade moved steadily westward. So James turned to agricultural pursuits and began his accumulation of land, mostly in the vicinity of Hamilton where at one time among other tracts, he owned from the mountain to the bay, all the land bounded by the present Queen Street on the East and by Dundurn Street on the West, some of which is still in the family's possession. He married Christina Hesse whose Rhineland ancestors had emigrated to Pennsylvania where she was born in Upper Mount Bethel Township. Their son who became the Honorable Samuel Sylvester Mills married Aurora Holton and the fifth child of this union, James Holton Mills who married Grace Norris, was my maternal grandfather. My mother was the third child of this marriage and I was christened Norris in honor of my grandmother. You will find a very full account of the Mills family and its descendants in a history by Stanley Mills, "The Mills, Gage and Smith Families".

FRANCIS GORE, Esq. *LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR*

Of the Province of Upper Canada, &c. &c. &c.

TO *William H. Weaver Gent.* GREETING.



REPOSING especial confidence in your Loyalty, Courage and good Conduct, I do hereby appoint you to be *Ensign in the 1st Regiment of Lincoln Militia in the Niagara District* during pleasure, and of which *Regiment the Honble William Claus* is *Colonel* you are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of *Ensign* by exercising, and well disciplining both the inferior Officers and Men of the said Militia.—And I do hereby Command them to obey you as their *Ensign*

And you are to observe and follow all such Orders and Directions as you shall from time to time receive from me or any other your Superior Officer according to Law.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at Arms at *York* this *5th* Day of *November* in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *fifteen* and in the *fifty Sixth* year of His Majesty's Reign.

Francis Gore
Lt Governor

By His Excellency's Command,

Edw. MacMahon
A.D.C.

Item No. 12

REQUISITION

TO

W. WOODRUFF, ESQ.

SIR:—Our late Member, the *Hon. Joseph C. Morrison*, having accepted the Office of Receiver-General, his Seat in the Legislative Assembly has become vacant, and he is presenting himself for re-election, by an Address to the Electors of the Town and Township, and solicits their votes and support.

We, the Undersigned, Electors of the Town and Township of Niagara, not approving of his Parliamentary conduct, solicit you to allow us to put you in Nomination for our Representative in Parliament, and we promise to use our best exertions and influence to have you returned.

WILLIAM W. BALL, W. SERVOS,
JOHN McBRIDE. JOSEPH WYNN,
ROBT. N. BALL, and 150 others.

To William Woodruff, Esq., St. Davids.

GENTLEMEN:—I have this day received your request, that I will allow myself to be put in nomination as a Representative for the Town and Township of Niagara. It is an honor that I could hardly have expected tendered to me, and, at the same time, one of great anxiety and responsibility, more particularly under existing circumstances: therefore, I must, in accepting your call, do so by qualifying it,—that my friends will take the responsibility of success or defeat upon themselves, and they must bear in mind that the call came from them and not by my seeking. Under these circumstances, a defeat will be no mortification to me, farther than one may be returned who has not heretofore represented the political and religious feelings of the people of Upper Canada. I shall leave the canvassing in the hands of my supporters; if I succeed, it should be done by those who wish me returned; therefore I hope the Electors will excuse me not calling personally on them to solicit their votes and support.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obd't Servant,

WILLIAM WOODRUFF.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE

TOWN & TOWNSHIP OF NIAGARA.

***Gentlemen:*—Having received and accepted a request of a number of** the Electors to stand as their Representative for the Town and Township of Niagara,—I have accepted the call, not from any vanity or desire of my own, but solely *because it is your wish and desire*. Your call was so unexpected, and your opposition accorded so much with my own respecting the Parliamentary conduct of our late Member, that it has the influence and power over my mind of despotic sway. My standing and politics are well known to you all, therefore no explanation on that point is required from me. On the day of Nomination I shall then and there more fully explain my opposition and my local platform, and if I am returned, I shall uphold and advocate the welfare of our country generally, but more particularly the interest and prosperity of the Town and Township of Niagara.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obed't Serv't,

St. Davids, June 3, 1856. ***WM. WOODRUFF.***

(All of the foregoing was printed on one large sheet or broadside of which I now have a copy but apparently it was to no avail. William received the nomination but the scoundrels who represented the opposition were one jump ahead and this time they captured the seat.)

Item No. 15

The Osgood Family

ABRAM OSGOOD m. **Bathsheba Mayberry**

b. Amesbury, England, 1729
d. Portland, Maine, Dec. 23, 1816. Came to Falmouth (now Portland) in 1763; prominent merchant of Portland who owned a tannery; a Selectman in 1777; Member of the Committee of Safety; Recipient of first Masonic Degree conferred in State of Maine, May 8, 1769.

b.
d. Windham, Maine, sometime after the Revolution to which place she and her children had been removed for safety.

Francis Osgood	Thomas Osgood	Bethia Osgood	Mary Osgood	? ? ? ? ?	Abram Osgood Jr.
(Brigadier)	No issue	m. Gould	m. Little	m. Robey	b. 1782 d. Dec. 29, 1872 m. Abigail Ross* Abram was initiated into his father's Lodge, Nov. 17, 1819. *—See Appendix Item No. 16

Abram Osgood (III)	Thomas Osgood	Emma Osgood	Francis Osgood	David Ross Osgood
			Lost at sea 1855-1856	b. Sept. 5, 1807, Portland, Me. d. Sept. 11, 1885, St. Davids, Ont. m. Dec. 1, 1832, Aultsville, Ont. Sarah Empey*. b. May 17, 1812, Aultsville, Ont. d. Aug. 20, 1875, Buffalo, N.Y. *—See Appendix, Item No. 17.

Children of David Ross Osgood and Sarah Empey

Horatio Abram Osgood	Emma Eloise Osgood	Helena Augusta Osgood
b. Aug. 11, 1833 d. Feb. 24, 1917 m. Jan. 13, 1858 Anne Williams b. 1831 d. 1921	b. Sept. 22, 1835 d. Oct. 31, 1928 m. Mar. 12, 1865 Williamsville, N.Y. Henry Counter Woodruff* *—See Woodruff genealogy, page No. 52	b. Apr. 30, 1847 d. Jan. 14, 1933 m. Jan. 27, 1869, Williamsville, N.Y. Edgar Nathan Meade b. Dec. 20, 1841 d. Sept. 25, 1935
1. David Victor b. Oct. 28, 1858 d. Oct. 1943	1. Edna Osgood Meade b. July 30, 1870 d. Aug. 17, 1940 m. Walter Kestin Issue: 1. David Kestin, died in infancy	
2. Horatio Francis b. Nov. 28, 1861	2. Emma Helena Meade b. Nov. 6, 1874 d. Feb. 13, 1955 m. William L. Pelton Issue: 1. William Meade Pelton b. Apr. 19, 1904; m. Helen Abul 2. John Edgar Pelton, b. June 13, 1906; m. Margaret Humes; Issue: 1. Carol. 2. John; 3. Douglas.	
3. Charles Emerson b. Aug. 25, 1864 d. Nov. 1943	3. Sarah A. Meade b. Apr. 5, 1877	
4. Ross Reverdy b. June 17, 1867 d. 1946		
5. Anna Maria b. Nov. 29, 1869		
6. Jerrold b. Jan. 10, 1873 d. Aug. 24, 1874		

7. Joseph Arthur
   b. Aug. 18, 1875
   m. Howard C. Woodbridge; Issue:
   1. Paul C. Woodbridge, b. Mar. 22, 1907; m. Janet Alexander; 2. Thomas Ross Woodbridge, b. Feb. 18, 1913; m. Eva Mae Ball; Issue:
   1. Martha, b. Nov. 15, 1943.
4. Marion Meade
   b. Dec. 20, 1878
   d. Mar. 1, 1886
5. Eleanor Meade } (Twins who died in infancy)
6. Eloise Meade }
7. Charles Osgood Meade
   b. Oct. 8, 1882
   d. Dec. 18, 1904
8. Helena Stockton Meade
   b. Jan. 4, 1889
   d. Feb. 25, 1941

Item No. 16

The Ross Family

David Ross — **m.** — **Emma Larrabee**

b. Mar. 14, 1754, Fort Augustus, Invernesshire, North Britain; came to Portland, Maine in 1774.
d. Dec. 29, 1841, Portland, Maine. Educated in the doctrines of the Kirk of Scotland; he was a direct descendant of the Scottish Ross Clan.

b. 1752
d. May 25, 1822

Abigail Ross
b. 1774
d. 1872
m. Nov. 27, 1806
Abram Osgood Jr.*
*See Appendix, Item No. 15

Item No. 17

The Empey Family

Philip Empey
Loyalist of Bauman's Kill, Tryon County, (now Montgomery County) N.Y.
Served in the Royal Regiment of New York

William Empey
Served in the Royal Yorkers, a Grenadier Company; settled at Farran's Point, Ont.

Adam Baker
A Loyalist from New York State; served in the Royal Regiment of New York; m. Catherine Louisa Schwartz; settled at Coteau Landing and later Osnabruck on the St. Lawrence where he raised a large family

Richard Empey, U.E.L. — **m.** — Hannah Baker
2nd daughter of Adam

1. Catherine
   m. Shaver
   Issue: 11

2. Sarah
   b. 1810
   d. 1883
   m. Jan. 12, 1829
   David Ross Osgood*
   *See Appendix, Item No. 15

3. Charles
   m. ? ? ?
   Issue: 8

4. Nancy
   m. Jacob Loucks
   Issue: 6

Note: The regimental data above is from Loyalist military records which also show numerous descendants of Philip Empey with the Canadian Forces in the War of 1812-1814, many as officers.

Item No. 17

"The S. D. Woodruff" and the "Jane C. Woodruff"

Samuel De Veaux Woodruff as Superintendent of the Welland Canal, took a great interest in shipping and was a business associate of another ship owner, John Battle of Thorold. Both these ships were owned by John Battle but named in honor of Samuel and his wife, Jane Caroline Sanderson.

The older of the two, the "S. D. Woodruff" was a barquentine built at Quebec in 1850 by DuBord. It is listed in an 1866 shipping register but not in the one for 1873 so must have retired from service between these dates.

The "Jane C. Woodruff" was also a barquentine, built by Lewis Shikeluna in his shipyard at St. Catharines in 1866. She was a sizeable vessel for those days. An old shipping register in the Public Archives of Canada give her dimensions as 139.0 length, 24.0 breadth, 11.3 depth and a registered tonnage of 337.

From other old records we know that she was originally in the square timber trade, probably before the time that she was converted to a 3 masted schooner. In the spring of 1878 the "Jane C. Woodruff" and the "Mary Battle" were in Georgian Bay headed for Collingwood to pick up timber. Bad snow squalls arose and both ships being light, heeled over so far that they were hard to steer. The snow reduced visability and while close reefed and working to windward on opposite tacks, they met head on and were badly damaged but were later towed to port.

The last record of the "Jane C. Woodruff" shows that she passed into the hands of John B. Miller of the Parry Sound Lumber Company. She was at this time in use as a tow barge behind the company's steamer SEGUIN which was scrapped only about ten years ago as the Canada Steamship Lines' freighter ARVIDA. The "Jane C. Woodruff" last appears in the 1901 Shipping Register indicating that she finally passed out of existence in 1902.

Mr. Percy C. Band of Toronto has an architect's water colored sketch of her.

Item No. 19

MATTHEW WOODRUFF (1) and Wife HANNAH
Landed in America, 1636
Matthew died 1682

Children

John	Matthew (2)	Hannah	Elizabeth	Mary	Samuel
1643-1692	1646-1691	1648–	1651–	1654–	1661-1742
	m. 1664	m.	m.		m. 1685
	(1) Mary Plum	Richard Seymour 2nd	John Broughton		Rebekah Clark
	m. 1686				
	(2) Sarah North				

Children by Mary Plum

Matthew (3)	Mary	John	Sarah	Samuel	Elizabeth	Hannah
1668-1751	1670–	1672–	1674–	1677–	1679–	1681–

Children by Sarah North

Nathaniel (1)	Joseph
1687-1758	1689-1737
	m. 1709
	Thankful (Woodward) Wright

Eunice	Dinah	Thankful	Benjamin	Jacob	Charles	Thankful	Sarah	Nathaniel (2)
1710-1793	1712-1786	1714–	1715-1782	1717-1790	1720-1802	1722	1725-1799	1728-1807
m.	m.					m. 1st	m.	m. 1749
Zebulon	Benjamin					Shepard	Gideon	Mary Kilbourne
Gibbs	Gibbs					m. 2nd	Harrison	m. 2nd
						Thomson		Martha Umberfield

Children by Mary Kilbourne

Sarah	Hannah	Samuel	Anne	Thankful	Nathaniel (3)	Sybil	Rhoda	Asenath	Ezekiel	Mary
m.	m.	1753–	m.	m.	d. age 14	m.	1838–	m.	1763-1837	m.
Ezra	Pierce		Abel	Nathaniel		Levi		James	m. 1782	John
Plum Jr.			Darling	Brown		Graniss		Buell	Sarah Hall	Russell
								&		
								Josiah		
								Grant		

Sarah
1783-1864
m.
Samuel
DeVeaux

Richard
1784-1872
m.
Anne
Clement

Maria
1786-1805
m.
Samuel
DeVeaux

Henry Augustus
1790-1864
m.
Olive
Edwards

William
1793-1860
m.
Margaret
Clement

John
1797-1827
m.
Joan

Samuel
1800-1824

Samuel DeVeaux
1819-1860
m.
Caroline
Sanderson

Joseph Augustine
1820-1886
m.
Julia
Claus

Richard
1822-1887
m.
Cornelia
McCrumb

Julia
1825-1870

Helena
1828-1892
m.
Joseph P.
Boomer

William
1830-1908

Henry Counter
1833-1916
m. 1865
Emma Eloise
Osgood

Henry Howard
1866-1868

William Emmason
1870-1953
m. 1897
Minerva Beatrice
Mills

Emma Eloise
1872-1944
m.
Henry David
Symmes

Hugh Malcolm
1876-1952
m. 1898
Mary Wilhelmina
Adams

Osgood Mills
1897-1906

Norris Counsell
1901
m. 1923
Mabel Marion
Fleming

Lillian Beatrice
1904-1904

Laurence David
1924
m. 1947
Elizabeth Munro
Wilcox

Madelon Minerva
1926
m. 1946
Robert Arthur
Laidler

James Laurence Dudley
b. 1951
Norris David
b. 1953

Eran Louise
b. 1947
Francine Elizabeth
b. 1950
Robert Brant
b. 1955

Item No. 20

But we know of one whose intransigence and general hell-raising as an undergraduate led first to his "rustication" and finally to his expulsion. This story which is too long for full quotation here, is contained in an amusing article entitled "A "Dust" at Yale and a "Blessing" for President Clapp" which appears as a contribution by Kenneth Scott in the Connecticut Historical Society's Bulletin, Vol. 23, No. 2, of April, 1958. It is based chiefly on material from the Minute Books and Files of the Superior Court Connecticut State Library and in the Judgments of the President and Tutors of Yale College, Yale University Library .

By 1765 Thomas Clapp, who had held the presidency for twenty years had become extremely unpopular.

"The year had been marked by disorders, mischief of all sorts, general absence from chapel, while there was underway an organized attempt to force the president out of office on the ground that he was in his dotage and therefore showed partiality. Matters were made worse by the inefficiency of some of the tutors, and the institution was almost in a state of anarchy."

Our concern is with "Simeon Woodruff of Litchfield, the son of Benjamin and Eunice Woodruff of that town, where Simeon had been born in January, 1744." The Benjamin Woodruff referred to could readily be Capt. Nathaniel I's first son (see table P. 19) and thus the first indication of his marriage to someone named Eunice.

The crux of the story is that Simeon and some fellow conspirators on the night of July 30th, 1765, disturbed a pre-commencement consultation being held in the president's residence by hurling stones and cattle horns at the windows and tearing off the gates. The affair was too flagrant to escape the attention of the law and eight of the culprits were haled to court before Justice Sherman. They all pleaded guilty and were sentenced to pay full costs and charges of prosecution as well as fines. The College authorities were thoroughly incensed and proceeded to enforce their own discipline.

"Of the three (particularly) undergraduates involved, Woodruff, Kimberly and Lockwood, one Woodruff, was considered a "principal actor". His previous record was not such as to recommend him: in 1763 he had been fined three shillings for cleaning the yard in defiance of a regulation forbidding the same, on another occasion three shillings four pence for playing cards, and in February, 1764, six shillings for bad conduct; it was noted that between June 4 and July 26, 1763, he had been absent from prayers eleven times and tardy seven; on December 10 the President and

tutors learned that three lotteries had been run by students in about a week, in one of which books valued at £6, Woodruff and another student had jointly purchased one of the twelve tickets. Woodruff was promptly put on probation but since then, although on probation, young Woodruff continued to be absent from or late to prayers or egressed from them and continued "to board at the Tavern" and assigned to the President very trifling reasons for so doing . In addition it was ascertained that the culprit had obtained, contrary to law, "very great quantities of Rum and Wine", so that on July 7, 1764, Woodruff was ordered rusticated until January 20 next, to live with and be under the instruction and government of the Reverend Mr. Boardman of Middletown as his tutor. His case was by no means helped by the fact that John Lothrop, B.A., had sold great quantities of strong drink to Woodruff and Jacob White and to Woodruff a copy of the "Earl of Rochester's Poems", "a book greatly tending to debauch the Minds of Youth".

Now, because of his prominent part in the riotous actions and because it was ascertained that it was he who broke the glass which wounded the President, Woodruff was forthwith expelled on September 11."

Kimberley was rusticated for a year but "Stinker" Lockwood turned King's evidence and was restored to grace after his humble confession made publicly in the chapel.

"The 'dust' raised at college doubtless contributed to the president's decision to tender his resignation, and it may be surmised that irate parents were responsible for the fact that Adams, Pomeroy, Burr, Nichols and Alcock apparently withdrew from Yale and certainly were not graduated."

Item No. 21

The Adams Family

This loyalist family, was prominent in the development of the St. Catharines locality. Their intermarriage with many of the early families, is illustrated by the following record.

(Years shown in parentheses, are those taken from St. Mark's Church marriage records)

WILLIAM ADAMS, U.E.L., born, Londonderry, Ireland. A surgeon in the British Army. Settled in Genesee Valley of New York Colony. In Revolutionary war, he brought his wife and family to Canada. He and his wife Ann, are buried under the floor of a church in Geneva, N.Y.

Children of William and Ann Adams.

THOMAS (known as Squire) ADAMS, built the first tavern

in St. Catharines, at the corner of St. Paul and Ontario Streets. The present firm of Thomas Adams, Distillers, dates from the distillery, which he established at Niagara.

He married Margaret Disher (1794).

ANN married Libius Porter (1799). (The American military family).

JANE married John Wilson (1794).

GEORGE, 1774-1844, m. Phoebe Smith. Daguerreotypes of George and his wife, are preserved by the family.

ELIAS SMITH, U.E.L., came from Holland with his wife, Catharine. Settled at Cortlandt Manor, Duchess County, N.Y.

In the Revolutionary War he recruited men for the King's Loyal Americans (Jessup's Regiment). The Loyalist List credits him with 27 recruits in one day. His family accompanied the Regt. to Canada in 1783, where Elias became a magistrate in the Newcastle District.

Children of Elias and Catharine

ELIAS married Catharine Secord (1802).

ELIZA married Duncan Clow (1802). Quartermaster of Merritt's Dragoons in War of 1812.

ANN married Capt. Geo. Turney who was killed at Battle of Chippawa.

MARY married John Clement (1816).
ELLEN married Gilbert Field.
HARRIET married Sgt. A. Thom of 41st (1811).
PHOEBE married George Adams (1774-1854)

Prior to the War of 1812, George Adams owned a tannery on the 12 Mile Creek. During the war he was a lieutenant in McEwan's Flank Company of the 1st Lincoln Regiment. The following letter, which he wrote to his eldest son, William, then a lad of sixteen, is still preserved by the family.

Niagara, May 21st, 1813.

Mr. William Adams
12 Mile Creek.
Dear William,

I wrote a letter to your mother, yesterday expecting Mr. Shipman to have been the bearer of it. There are 14 sail of vesfels

in sight. They have landed their troops. We expect to be attacked every hour. I intended to see you on Saturday night, but I am fearful the present appearance of things, will not admit of. I have just spoken to Mr. Dickson about bark. He says you can peel the black oak. Fell the timber and peel the timber clean. Do not peel any white oak, but peel all the black oak you possibly can.

Mr. Wm. Merritt told me he would assist you, should any accident happen to me. Carry on the bassing in the yard, as long as you can, for the benefit of your mother, brothers and sisters. When you think proper; after you are of age, if you follow the businefs, I would advise you to sink a yard in the white house lot. You can get your hay, pasture and firewood from the farm. Endeavour to get the lot of land behind your uncle's, and that will support you all with timber. You will have cash enough on hand next fall, to pay all the debts I owe, with the money coming from Long Point, but the farm I bought from James Secord at the head of the lake, is yours. Obtain it from him. The will, I made, I broke open. Intended to make some alterations; it is only respecting your sisters, I intended to add a little to their part, such as a mare, saddle and bridle, a couple of milk cows, with some household furniture, which I leave to the judgement of your mother, brother and yourself.

If it can be spared, put away the cash you have on hand, in a safe place. You will charge George Hainer with $15, John Robertson with, I think, $5, Robertson will tell you. David Hainer with some wheat I am to take from him, I paid him $4 on oats, I do not know that I have charged it, I was to have the oats at $4. I will enclose an order from James Secord on Robt. Brown for $21, which Jas. Dittrick is to offset against $50 coming to him on the 400 Dls. Bill, that I charged for him. I have nothing on businesf, more to write you.

I have one particular charge to leave you, your brothers and sisters; THAT is: that you will be honest in your dealings, affectionate for each other, tender and thoughtful to your mother, and always implore mercy from God, who gave you all existence. I do not, my son, write this letter because I am the least intimidated, or that I foresee the approaching end, but I think it my duty to give you these little instructions, which I hope you will be able to fulfill. After you have read these lines, give them to your brothers and sisters.

Your affectionate father,

George Adams.

As a sequel to this letter, we refer to "Notes by Capt. (later the Honorable') W. H. Merritt' which are published in the Documentary History of the Campaign on the Niagara Frontier. Describing the awful 27th of May, when the Lincoln Militia suffered such grievious losses, he says: ". . . . They were met by the advance of Col. Myer's Division, in the most gallant manner. Mr. Adams was dangerously wounded, report mentioned his being killed . . . still I never was more hurt than on hearing of his death, knowing what a large and affectionate family he had; and I could not have felt more hurt, on hearing of the death of my own father. They were obliged to retreat . . . etc."

Though Mr. Merritt was twenty one years old at this time, and Mr. Adams nearly twenty years his senior, the close friendship of these near neighbours, always endured.

George Adams was prominent in Church and Masonic affairs, being one of the founders of St. George's Church in St. Catharines, and the first Grand Master, for Upper Canada.

Children of George and Phoebe Adams:

ELIAS married Susan Merritt, sister of William Hamilton, and daughter of Thomas Merritt, a former officer in the Queen's Rangers, who raised Merritt's Dragoons in the War of 1812.

THOMAS married Mary Anderson.

ELIZA married Henry Mittleberger.

SARAH married John Clark (later Colonel), Adjutant, the 1st Lincolns, 1812.

CATHERINE and MARY who were unmarried.

The Adams Family (4)

WILLIAM, the eldest son, 1797-1874. Also known as Squire Adams, was baptised at St. Marks Church, Feb. 22nd, 1797. Married Mary Smith, daughter of Nicholas Smith, who was on the original muster roll of Butler's Rangers, and lieutenant in the 2nd Lincolns in the War of 1812.

Children of William and Mary Adams:

ELIZA married Pickard.
MARY married Oille.
SARAH married Alex Junkin.
SUSAN married Stephen Beattie.
FRANCES, unmarried.
PHOEBE married Metler
GEORGINA married Metler.
HARRIET married Cave.
JULIA, unmarried.
WILLIAM m. Eliza Chellew
GEORGE died in infancy

ELIAS PORTER married Georgina Oliver.

Elias Porter, eleventh child of William Adams, was born in 1846 and died in 1921. He married 1873 Georgina (1848-1935), daughter of James

Oliver who was born in Hawick, Scotland, and whose wife, Wilhelmina Telfer, brought to Canada, the bible, still in the family possession, which traces her family for two hundred years.

Elias was the proprietor of Spring Farm, near Queenston. The Department of Agriculture records him as the first commercial grape grower in Canada.

Children of Elias Porter and Georgina Adams:

MARY WILHELMINA, born 1875, married Hugh Malcolm Woodruff. (See Woodruff geneology)

PORTER OLIVER, born 1884, married Matilda Emmett. Their daughter Cathrine married William Bailey.

Item No. 22

"The Woodruffs of New Jersey" by Francis Eben Woodruff, starts the record as follows:

1. Thomas Woodrove, 1508-1552, Fordwich, Kent, England.
2. William Woodroffe, died 1587.
3. Robert Woodroffe, died 1611.
4. John Woodroffe, 1574-1611
5. John Woodruffe, 1604-1670. This John moved from England to Southampton, Long Island, N.Y., 1640.
6. John Woodruffe, younger son, 1650-1703.

Now, according to "A Branch of the Woodruff Family" by Stephen Albert Woodruff, John Woodruffe (5) had a son, John, who became one of the proprietors of Elizabethtown, N.J. Then he had another son whom he also named John, referred to as the younger son John. In the book of wills of Suffolk County, New York, is the will of John Woodruffe (6), the younger and it records in order of their age, first his sons, Samuel, Joseph, Benjamin, Nathaniel, Isaac, Johnathan and then his daughters, Sarah, Hannah, Abigail and Elizabeth.

I could find no evidence to establish a relationship between these two branches of the family. It is possible, of course, that John Woodruffe (5) and Matthew Woodruff (1) were brothers. They were of an age and both came to New England about the same time. This would make John (6) the younger's ten children enumerated above, cousins once removed of the eight children of Matthew Woodruff (II). Now what is interesting is this — five of John the younger's ten children bear the same given name as five of Matthew II's eight children—Samuel, Joseph, Nathaniel, Sarah and Elizabeth. And two of these five, Samuel and Elizabeth, were names used by Matthew I for two of his children. Another of the ten, Hannah, is also the namesake of one of Matthew I's children. You must draw your own conclusion as to whether this happened because of an effort to preserve family tradition or by pure coincidence.

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